

Iran to try hijackers of Kuwaiti airliner

LONDON (R) — Four men who hijacked a Kuwaiti airliner to Tehran earlier this month will be tried in Iran and will not be extradited to any other country, the Iranian public prosecutor was quoted Tuesday as saying.

The official Iranian News Agency IRNA, received in London, quoted Hajootelestan Mir Emadi as saying in Tehran that the hijackers would be tried in accordance with the penal law of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The hijackers, said to be Arabs but whose affiliation was unclear, killed two American officials after forcing the plane on Dec. 4 to Tehran where they held it until Iranian security men stormed it around midnight on Dec. 9.

The plane had been on a flight from Kuwait to Karachi but was taken over after a stopover in the

Gulf emirate of Dubai. The hijackers boarded in Dubai after flying there from Beirut.

Mr. Mir Emadi was quoted as saying a number of countries had asked for the extradition of the hijackers. But he added: "Because no country has so far extradited to Iran hijackers of Iranian airliners, such an irrational request cannot be accepted."

Kuwait is thought to have been considering asking for the extradition of the hijackers, whose main demand was for the release of a group of Shi'ite Muslims jailed in Kuwait for bombing the

U.S. and French embassies a year ago.

Mr. Mir Emadi said the hijackers were still being interrogated and they would be brought to trial as soon as this was completed. He said their nationalities would not affect the verdicts, according to IRNA.

Whether the trial would be public or not depended on the results of the interrogation. Mr. Mir Emadi added.

The Iranian prosecutor also said the hijackers of an Air France jetliner, forced to Tehran last August on a flight from Frankfurt to Paris, would be tried soon. IRNA quoted him as saying their case was "in the final stages and once it is completed, their trial will start."

The three hijackers freed their hostages in Tehran but then blew up the cockpit of the Air France Boeing 737.

Hijack survivor talks about ordeal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Charles Kapar has said that hijackers of a Kuwaiti airliner told him he would be the next to die in the six-day ordeal at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport that ended when Iranian security forces stormed the plane.

But Mr. Kapar, an employee of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), told a news conference that the hijackers may have decided to spare his life after he told them he was a high U.S. government official and felt he could be used as a bargaining chip in negotiations to end the hijacking.

Smiling and relaxed, Mr. Kapar, 57, seemed in far better condition than he was six days ago when he was freed bearing the scars of pistol-butt beatings by the hijackers. On Monday, the most vis-

ible evidence of his ordeal were red spots in the whites of his eyes.

Mr. Kapar was among the final group of hostages who were freed Dec. 9 when Iranian security forces stormed the jetliner.

Two of Mr. Kapar's colleagues at USAID, William Stanford and Charles Hegna, were killed by their captors. A fourth American, John Costa, a New York businessman, was freed with Mr. Kapar.

At the outset of the news conference, Mr. Kapar said, "I am happy to be alive."

He said Mr. Hegna was killed first because the hijackers want to make "an example of him." When Mr. Stanford was killed later, Mr. Kapar said, his death may have been accidental.

"I was told I was number

three," he continued. After one of the hijackers threatened him with death, Mr. Kapar said he told him, "I may die, but you're going to die, too."

Mr. Kapar said the hijackers claimed they were from Kuwait, but that they looked more like Lebanese or Palestinians and "acted like" fundamentalist Muslims, in part, because of their negative attitude toward men's magazines and alcoholic beverages.

The mood aboard the plane fluctuated between periods of boredom and high tension.

Mr. Kapar, who has already praised Iranian for their treatment of him, said the Iranian government could dispel doubts about whether it colluded with the terrorists by having "these four people tried as murderers."

Iranian officials reportedly bought explosives that blew U.S. barracks

NEW YORK (AP) — An employee of the Iranian embassy in Bern, Switzerland, is believed to have purchased the explosives that blew up the U.S. Marine barracks in Lebanon last year, Reader's Digest has reported.

The magazine said in the story in its January issue it "spent months interviewing intelligence and anti-terrorist experts here (in the United States) and throughout Europe and the Middle East. Key Iranian exiles were also debriefed. Some members of the Tehran regime itself, appalled by the brutality of (Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeini's rule, risked their lives to speak with us. All agreed the threat is very grave."

The magazine said Iran uses its embassies in Bern and Bonn, West Germany, as "conduits for weapons and explosives" for terrorist acts.

"In June 1982, for example, an employee of Khomeini's Bern embassy secretly purchased 300 tons of the lethal explosive cyclotrimethylene triazene (C-3) from Brussels," the magazine said. "Shipped in disguise to Lebanon

via India, the explosives are believed to have been used in the suicide attack on the U.S. Marines barracks in Beirut."

In another incident, a representative of the magazine posed as a European arms broker and contacted an agent of Khomeini in Bern, according to the Digest.

"Within minutes, the agent had agreed to purchase 10 tons of illicit cyclotrimethylene triazene, the explosive that blew up the Marine barracks in October 1983, the article said.

Reader's Digest accused Iranian terrorists of bombing a passenger train and the Marseille Train Station and of wounding a U.S. consul in Strasbourg in France.

The magazine also said they were behind aborted plots to blow up both a U.S. airliner on a trans-Atlantic flight and NATO facilities in Turkey.

The Digest also quotes exiled former Iranian Prime Minister Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying that the number of Khomeini's followers has been increasing in the United States for 15 years, adding, "they are very well hidden and financed."

Since the mid-1970s, the article

said, Iranians have used the cover of providing classes in Shi'ite Muslim dogma to enlist militant black prison inmates who have converted to Islam. "Upon release, these men joined Khomeini's American terrorist apparatus," the article said.

Khomeini's agents operate out of the Iranian interests section of the Algerian embassy, since the United States has no diplomatic relations with Iran, and the section now includes about 60 people, the magazine reported.

"It is in constant contact with Khomeini networks across the United States and arranges for clandestine funding of their activities through tax-free Islamic Front Organizations," the Digest said.

The Soviet Union "is quietly building its own infrastructure deep within Iran's ruling clique of ayatollahs," according to the magazine. It said Mosavi Khomeini, who was singled out by freed hostages as the leader of the Iranians who seized the U.S. embassy in Tehran in 1979, was pro-Soviet.



HONECKER-BENJEDID TALKS: East German head of state Erich Honecker (second from right) heads his country's delegation in official talks in Algiers with an Algerian team headed by President Chadli Benjedid (second from left).

UNIFIL denies part in Israeli attacks

TEL AVIV (R) — A United Nations spokesman Tuesday denied U.N. peacekeeping troops aided an Israeli military attack in South Lebanon last Thursday.

"Absolutely not," said Timor Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), when asked if there was complicity between U.N. forces and Israeli units during an Israeli security sweep through Shi'ite Muslim villages in the Tyre area under UNIFIL control.

Nabih Berri, Lebanese minister of state for South Lebanon, was quoted by Lebanon's National News Agency Monday as saying he was "almost certain" U.N. troops were involved in the action.

Goksel told Reuters that UNIFIL faces "an incompatible situation of having an occupation force in the area and a U.N. peacekeeping force."

He added: "All the problems arise because these forces, their objectives, missions and ways of operating are totally incompatible."

Israel said the operation covered four villages and resulted in two deaths. Lebanese reports said five people died as a result of an Israeli sweep through seven villages.

An Israeli military spokesman denied a charge by Mr. Berri, leader of the Shi'ite militia Amal, that Israeli troops destroyed items in schools, mosques and other religious centres and took cash and jewellery.

The spokesman said Israeli troops had advanced knowledge that weapons were hidden in a mosque in one village.

"Indeed, most of the weapons seized were found in that mosque," he said.

Sources in the South had earlier said three people were killed, 21 wounded and 135 arrested in an Israeli swoop on seven villages near the southern Lebanese port of Tyre. U.N. sources said Monday two more people had died from wounds.

Israel says two people died and the operation covered four villages.

The UNIFIL, established in 1978 following an Israeli invasion

Committee votes to limit Kahane's immunity

of southern Lebanon, has 5,200 men from nine countries including France stationed between the Litani River and the Israeli border.

Mr. Berri was speaking to reporters after a one-hour meeting with U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew at which an Israeli withdrawal and the UNIFIL role were discussed.

Mr. Berri said he had told Mr. Bartholomew of his surprise over the "insignificant American stand" on the Israeli operation.

"We told the American ambassador that this stand on the part of his government and other governments casts doubt on, if it does not affirm, the extent of backing provided by these big powers to Israel," Mr. Berri said.

Women confront Israelis

Meanwhile, Shi'ite women chanting "Israelis go home" confronted Israeli soldiers when they returned Monday to the scene of a major search operation last week in South Lebanon.

"We come in peace. Stay in your homes," an Israeli announced in Arabic through a loudspeaker as his command car edged into the village of Bidyan near the port of Tyre.

Last Thursday Israeli occupation forces mounted an anti-guerrilla sweep through Shi'ite villages. On Monday they took reporters on a heavily guarded tour of the tense area.

In Bidyan, the convoy of four armed personnel carriers, an ambulance and reporters' vans wound into the dusty square and was met by about 50 fist-shaking women, some with children.

The only local man in sight was the mukhtar (village headman), Mahmoud Karfarami, who told reporters the Israelis had gathered the villagers together last Thursday, taken their weapons and then released most of them.

As Mr. Karfarami spoke, loud Arabic chanting started booming from village loudspeakers and Israelis in full combat kit parolled the square's perimeter unsually. "God is Great," the women called. "Israelis go home."

Kahane's immunity

TEL AVIV (R) — A committee of Israel's parliament voted Tuesday to limit the parliamentary immunity of Rabbi Meir Kahane, who was elected on a platform advocating eviction of Arabs from Israeli territory.

The House Committee voted 12-8 in an open session to recommend that the entire house lift Mr. Kahane's immunity with regard to freedom of movement.

Mr. Kahane, elected to parliament last July, has tried to enter Arab villages as part of his programme to expel Israel's 650,000 Arab citizens and the 1.3 million Palestinians living under Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The American-born Rabbi was invited but refused to attend the committee sessions. "Whatever will be, Kahane will not be limited," he told the state radio.

The committee's recommendation was to be considered by the entire parliament next week.

"I hope this is only the first step toward lifting Kahane's immunity and rejecting him from the Knesset (parliament)," said Yossi Sarid of the leftist Citizens' Rights Party who sponsored the anti-Kahane resolution.

The newsmen testified in U.S. district court at a \$50-million libel lawsuit brought by Mr. Sharon after Time said he had discussed the need for the revenge of Basheir's death with the Gemayel family.

Time editor calls Begin's denial 'credible'

NEW YORK (AP) — The chief of correspondents for Time magazine testified Monday he thought former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's denial was "credible" when Begin said a secret report contained no information about an alleged discussion by Ariel Sharon of the need for revenge by Lebanese Falangists.

However, Richard Duncan, an assistant managing editor of Time, said he thought it was "secondary" where the information

OIC foreign ministers converge on Sanaa

SANAA, N. Yemen (AP) — Foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) converged on Sanaa Tuesday to deliberate collective means of ending the Iraq-Iran war, liberating Jerusalem from the Israeli military occupation, and aiding the Palestinians in their quest to exercise self-determination in an independent state of their own.

Of the 43 OIC member countries 36 have sent their foreign ministers and plenipotentiaries to take part in the four-day conference. The 44th member, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), was represented by its Chairman Yasser Arafat and his chief foreign policy officer Farouk Kaddoumi.

Officials and analysts said they expected the sessions to be stormy, noting that the foreign ministers of warring Iraq and Iran were present to plead their respective cases in the 50-month-old conflict.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was to appeal to the conference to lean on Iran for an immediate end to the war which wrecked the economies of the two Gulf countries and claimed hundreds of thousands of lives.

The Iranian foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, was to reiterate his country's demand for the OIC condemnation of Iraq as the "aggressor" and press for billions of dollars in war reparations to be paid by Iraq and Gulf Arab powers, according to sources close to the conference.

Arab diplomatic sources said they expected the conference to produce no effective action, beyond a resolution to resume mediation efforts between the warring sides.

"No one expects Iran to come up with any real proposals for ending the war," said one diplomat, who refused to be identified. "On that score, both the Iranian and Iraqi delegates are expected to use the meeting here as a means of drumming up their respective propaganda lines."

The same source said that a number of foreign ministers, mainly of the Gulf region, were to put forward specific proposals for ending the conflict.

Mr. Arafat, they said, was to offer a proposal for a two-month truce during which OIC mediators would bring the warring sides to the negotiating table for a decisive peace.

The Arafat proposals call for an Islamic disengagement force to be deployed along the 1,180-kilometre Iraq-Iran battlefield.

"Iraq has accepted all proposals for peace, but it will be interesting to see how Velayati will react," said the same diplomat.

Iraq has escalated its air raids on oil tankers and freighters within and outside the Gulf war zone, with the stated aim of blocking Iran's crude oil exports and undermining its economy.

Shortly before the OIC foreign ministers began gathering here, Iraq jet fighters have been launching almost daily raids on tankers sailing south of Iran's Kharg Island and oil terminal.

Conference sources said most foreign ministers viewed the escalation as an Iraqi bid to pressure the OIC to persuade Iran to quit fighting and start negotiating.

The conference also was to discuss the Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan and seek means of mustering collective diplomatic action to end it.

With the exception of Kuwait, the Saudi Arabian-led Gulf Arab countries have shunned diplomatic relations with Moscow. The Saudi foreign minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, in a recent newspaper interview praised the Kremlin leadership for being "just and honourable" toward the Palestinian cause, appealing to Moscow for a similar attitude on the Afghan issue.

A number of the OIC member countries have been aiding Afghan guerrillas in their war against the Soviet military occupation. The OIC countries have "frozen" Afghanistan's membership of the Organisation, contending that the pro-Soviet Kabul government was not representative of that country's people.

Libya and Syria have tried to bar Egypt from attending the Sanaa conference, accusing the Egyptian government of President Hosni Mubarak of being "an agent of Israel within the Islamic fold." But other members of the OIC have stood firm against this, insisting that Egypt had a right to attend.

Egypt was reinstated in the OIC in January, four years after the Organisation had frozen its membership in protest against its 1979 U.S.-sponsored peace treaty links with Israel.

Conference sources said they expected the Egyptian, Syrian and Libyan delegates would be locked in a war of words during the meetings over the Middle East peace process.

They said the conference was to issue recommendations and resolutions on means of bolstering the PLO and aiding guerrillas against Israel within occupied territory.

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TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION	
MAIN CHANNEL	
17:00	Koran
17:15	Children's Programme
18:30	South Pole
19:00	Religious Stories
19:15	Agricultural Programme
19:30	Programme Review
19:40	News Programme
19:55	Poetry
20:00	Special Programme on World Children's Day
21:10	Arabic Series
21:50	Tomorrow's Programmes
22:00	Arabic Series
23:00	News in Arabic
23:10	Religious Programme
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:15	French Programme
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Special Programme on World Children's Day
21:10	Play
22:00	News in English
22:15	Play Continued
RADIO JORDAN	
855 kHz, AM & 95 MHz, FM & purely on 95.00 KHz, SW	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show
10:00	Pop Session
10:30	News Summary
11:00	Pop Session
11:30	News Summary
12:00	Pop Session
12:30	News Summary
13:00	Pop Session
13:30	News Bulletin
14:00	Instrumentals
14:30	Old Mother
15:00	Concert Hour
15:30	News Summary
16:00	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favorites
17:00	Jordan Weekly
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Over a Cup of Tea
19:00	Musical
19:30	News
20:00	Dance with a Star
20:30	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
Amman, Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Osa (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An art exhibition of oils and watercolours by Nello (Seri) at 6.00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre until Dec. 22.	
* Annual book exhibition at Yarmouk University (until Dec. 19).	
* An exhibition of ornaments by Sababir Urug Al Rashid at 5.00 p.m. at the Regency Palace Hotel.	
* A Palestinian national documentary exhibition at 4.00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 24).	
FILMS	
* Italian film week at 8.00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 21)	
* Bremen Freiheit, at 8.00 p.m., Goethe Institute, Amman.	
* Ordinary People, 7.00 p.m., American Centre.	
* An Evening of Songs and Music by Al Rayat Group, Studio Theatre, Royal Cultural Centre 6.00 p.m.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267	
American Centre 44371	
American Centre library 41520	
British Council 36147.8	
French Cultural Centre 37009	
Goethe Institute 41993	
Soviet Cultural Centre 41793	
Spanish Cultural Centre 34049	
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777	
Hays Arts Centre 665195	
Hussein Youth City 667181	
Y.W.C.A. 41793	
Amman Municipal Library 664251	
University of Jordan Library 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Falshere Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre.	
06:04	Fair
06:32	(Sunrise) Duke
11:32	Dhuhur
14:17	Ast
16:33	Maghreb
18:03	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
AMMAN AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
06:50	Cairo (MS)
07:40	Karachi (PK)
08:20	Beirut (MEA)
09:30	Sanaa (Y)
09:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00	Kuwait (KU)
10:20	Beirut (RJ)
12:15	Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
14:40	Kuwait (KU)
15:10	Jeddah (SV)
17:00	Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IV)
17:30	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
17:35	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:40	London, Paris (RJ)
17:45	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:45	Bucharest, Istanbul (RJ)
18:00	Rome (RJ)
18:10	Paris, Damascus (TA)
18:30	Bangkok (RJ)
18:30	Beirut (RJ)
19:00	Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
19:25	Beirut (MEA)
20:50	Frankfurt, Damascus (RJ)
22:30	Cairo (RJ)
00:45	Cairo (RJ)
01:10	Baghdad (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
06:30	Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)
06:50	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:40	Beirut (RJ)
07:50	Amman (RJ)
08:20	Cairo (RJ)
08:45	Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PK)
10:25	Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
12:00	Belgrade, London (RJ)
12:05	Larnaca, Zurich (SR)
14:30	Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GA)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
15:40	Kuwait (KU)
16:40	Jeddah (SV)
18:00	Baghdad (RJ)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)
19:40	Dhahran (RJ)
20:00	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Sanaa (Y)
20:50	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)
MONEY EXCHANGE	
Local sell/buy rates in Jds	
Belgian franc	64.6 / 65
Dutch guilder	115.3 / 116
Egyptian pound	305 / 308.3
French franc	42.4 / 42.7
Iraqi dinar	331.6 / 335.5
Italian lire (for 100)	21.1 / 21.3
Japanese yen (for 100)	162.6 / 163.6
Saudi riyal	13.

Noor awards diplomas to nursing graduates

AMMAN (Petra) — A ceremony for graduating nurses and midwives was held at the Al Hussein Youth City Palace of Culture Tuesday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

At the outset of the ceremony, Health Minister Kamel Al Ajlouni made a speech in which he voiced satisfaction at the increasing number of applications the Health Ministry has been receiving from school graduates wishing to join the nursing profession. In the light of the situation, the Health Ministry has decided to set up two new nursing schools in Irbid and Zarqa this year and plans to open others in a number of districts, Dr. Ajlouni said.

The establishment of these new colleges, he said, is designed to help meet the shortage in the number of nurses. At present Jordan employs 1,009 local nurses and hopes to have 1,509 nurses and midwives in three years' time, the minister said.

Dr. Ajlouni appealed to the graduates to shoulder their responsibilities and to carry out their duties faithfully and conscientiously and promised that the ministry will endeavour to improve the work and pay conditions for nurses.

Also addressing the ceremony was Miss Samira Qumuq, principal of the Irbid nursing school, who outlined the role of nurses in the general health service in Jordan.

Afterwards the 71 graduates took a medical oath before the Queen who distributed the diplomas and awards to the those excelling in their courses.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday presents diplomas to nurses and midwives graduating from Ministry of Health nursing schools (Petra photo)

Jordan, EC sign energy planning agreement

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The European Community (EC) is to offer Jordan assistance for setting up an energy planning unit according to an agreement signed in Amman Tuesday, Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour said.

The agreement stipulates that the EC will provide Jordan with specialists and training for Jordanian personnel on data-collecting methods and ways of improving energy planning.

The agreement, signed by Mr. Christopher Audland, the director general for energy at the EC Commission, and Mr. Nsour, also offers technical assistance to the energy unit at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

The signing of the agreement was also attended by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Planning Ziad Fraiz and senior officials from the two ministries.

The EC delegation, Tuesday concluded a tour of Arab countries which aimed to discuss means of boosting Euro-Middle Eastern cooperation and coordination.

In a press conference he gave Monday, Mr. Audland outlined the volume of bilateral cooperation between the EC and Jordan. He said the EC had been providing Jordan with technical and financial aid and that in 1983 EC aid to Jordan is expected to reach 450 million European Currency Units (ECU), ranging from soft loans to grants. He also said that the EC is offering technical aid to the Jordanian universities, vocational training institutes and schools.

The EC is also offering expertise for operating the Yarmouk

Arab electricity experts call for energy rationalisation, improving efficiency

By Rana Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "Generated electric power in the Arab World reached 43,000 mega watts which, according to the international energy standards, is a modest figure and is less than the generated electrical energy produced in any European country," Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib said Tuesday.

Dr. Khatib, who was speaking at the opening of the second meeting of a working group on electricity power producers and distributors in the Arab Orient, added that the discussions concerning the Arab World and its mineral resources should be scientific and realistic. Dr. Khatib said that equivalent oil consumption for producing energy has reached a total of 38,000 million tonnes, whereas the total energy consumption in the Arab World has reached 140 million tonnes and that the ratio between electric energy consumption in relation to the total energy reached 26 per cent.

He added that this ratio should be significant to the total energy consumed in producing electricity in the world which ranges between 20 and 50 per cent. Dr. Khatib stressed that rationalisation in consumption is a must, although the above mentioned figures reflect the rapid development progress throughout the Arab World.

Dr. Khatib also said that the rapid growth of electrical energy has reached its peak after what could be described as an "oil boom", after which the Arab World's growth in electrical energy reached eight times the average electrical energy growth in the world. This growth, he said, could be described as "abnormal and astray from electrical maturity" due to the sudden rapid use of energy and power in the Arab World.

Dr. Khatib said that Jordan has reached a high rate in terms of energy consumption and electricity due to the rapid growth in the development plans especially since electricity has reached all rural areas. On the other hand

these numbers should be decreased, as a lot of electricity is used in a useless manner, he added.

Hence, Dr. Khatib said "rationalisation in consumption is a means of reaching balanced development."

He stressed the fact that energy intensive industries have created a severe problem in energy consumption, and he suggested the use of water power generators instead of fuel and thermal power generators.

Dr. Khatib also discussed the technical problems facing the electricity sector in the Arab World which he described as "an overall thermal deficiency in generating power, a mal-organisation of electricity administration, a lack of efficient turbines, and a need to improve the standards of low pressure electricity cycles. He also said that our "backwardness" in electricity administration reflects our backwardness in all administrative affairs, which is a major problem impeding progress.

Dr. Khatib added that technological progress in the Arab World "is a pity, especially that until now we do not produce electrical machines for power supply, nor do we know how to properly use the machines once we have them." He said that "we heavily depend on foreign expertise and technical help, plus our heavy dependence on Western industries."

As a solution, Dr. Khatib suggested that the foreign experts should act as trainers and consultants to local manpower, and that Jordan in return should learn from them during the consultation period.

Dr. Mirvat Badawi, representative of the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development (AFESD), outlined the role of AFESD in financing Arab industries. She said that the fund has offered loans to 21 Arab companies concerned in electrical industries and the supply of electrical power. The estimated budgets for these 21 industries has reached the sum of 600 million Kuwaiti dinars.

Dr. Mohammad Hawari, representative of the Arab Org-



Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib speaks at the opening of a meeting on electrical power in the Arab World (Petra photo)

Senate debates provisional loan agreement laws

Lower House receives university reply on fees

By Salamah B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament approved in a session Tuesday the income tax law issued by the government in 1982 after a slight amendment. They also heard the University of Jordan's answer to an inquiry on the reasons for the recent increase in university fees.

In its reply to the inquiry by deputies, the University of Jordan said that the university fees cover only 11 per cent of the budget which suffers a deficit of 19.5 per cent. According to the university, the fees paid by students include education services, health insurance and other activities. The total collected annual fees reached JD 3.6 million last year of the JD 33 million university budget.

The university said that due to the decline in university revenues from custom tax and additional fees by JD 1.2 million in 1984, it was decided to increase the university fees paid by students to cover a part of the university's deficit by JD 350,000 annually.

The new fees according to the university including the increase are not paid by all students but only fresher, first-year, students who total 1,300 out of 2,900, some of whom study at the expense of certain parties, including the government, through a Royal Decree for children of Jordanians serving in the Armed Forces and through scholarships by the Ministry of Education.

The university told the house that students studying at their own expense are offered loans and grants by the university which also provides job opportunities for those willing to work at the university in order to help them generate an extra income to cover a part of their fees.

The university's reply pointed out that the average cost for each student for the scholastic year 1984-1985 will be JD 715 while the average paid by non-first years will be JD 268, which comes up to only 15 per cent of the cost of his education. Freshers on the other hand would pay JD 360 which is 20 per cent of the education cost.

The House then settled down to hear government replies to inquiries by deputies on various issues related to their constituencies. The Ministry of Public Works said that it had floated a tender to build a medical centre in Karak after concluding the centre's plan and securing the needed funds. The project will be awarded by the ministry in the next few days, the ministry said.

In another reply, the Ministry of Health said it had appropriated a piece of land in Karak for the purpose of building a new hospital, in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Works which is handling the structural planning and technical schemes.

The report by the ministry indicated that the number of hospital beds in Karak is of the ratio one to each 632 citizens which is the highest ratio in the Kingdom.

The House then heard the reply of the Ministry of Public Works on opening or improving new roads in the Kingdom including the Mirjameh Hamed road to Umm Suwayneh and the Desert Highway. The ministry said these roads will be built next year.

The Ministry of Interior in its turn said that the issue of administrative restructuring in the government was under study and that the government would be able to reply to inquiries after finalising the study.

The Upper House meets

The Upper House at Parliament also met Tuesday and agreed to expedite the debate on 30 provisional laws for loan agreements after a thorough discussion among senators that ended in a decision to refer the laws to the financial committee in the House.

At the beginning of the session, presided over by Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, senators were divided into two opinions, one calling for giving priority to pass these provisional laws as similar laws were implemented in the past which cancels the feasibility of studying them again.

Other senators were of the opinion that discussing these laws first would help in issuing other financial loan agreements that would be of benefit beside making these laws effective through the next few years.

Planning Ministry, UNCHS to conduct national services, housing surveys

By Lima Nabil
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Planning and the U.N. Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) will begin implementing a regional planning scheme and a national survey in Jordan in January.

Nearly 1,200 population settlements in the country will be covered by the survey to help planners define their needs and requirements. According to Mr. Ali Shabou, regional information officer for UNCHS, the project is designed to arrive at results to help carry out educational, health, housing, transport, energy and basic service projects to be distributed equitably in all areas taking into account geographic and demographic distributions.

The project is to be considered the first step towards implementing a comprehensive development scheme which is due to start in 1986 and end in 1990. This five-year plan is designed to bring about a more equitable distribution of health, economic and educational services and so remove the existing differences in Jordan's society.

Meanwhile an agreement has recently been concluded between the Ministry of Planning and the UNCHS to implement a study on the strategy of housing in Jordan. The study, which will start on Jan. 1, includes a comprehensive study of the housing situation in the various parts of Jordan from Irbid in the north to Aqaba in the south.

In a statement to the Jordan Times, Mr. Shabou said the project aims to develop a national housing strategy in Jordan by providing the necessary information and analysis, and by studying the present housing projects.

The project also aims at reconsidering the situation of the institutions involved in housing and financial investments with a view to reaching recommendations on policies capable of improving the housing situation, Mr. Shabou added. The study also tackles establishing and developing a new housing division at the Ministry of Planning to be charged with drawing up programmes for training those who work in the housing field. The new division, Mr. Shabou said, will also be in charge of drawing up new bases and criteria for housing strategies.

Recommendations from the study will be based on scientific studies, statistics and various surveys will help draw up new perceptions on the housing situation all over Jordan, Mr. Shabou said.

He added that the recommendations will take into consideration the population distribution and numbers, the nature of the geographical area and the economic situation in any particular region and linking this population activity to the other social and economic activities in order to meet the objectives of the forthcoming development plan.

Nabulsi pledges funds for Zarqa municipal projects

ZARQA (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi said here Tuesday that the government is making arrangements to make available the necessary funds to finance water and sewerage projects in Zarqa.

Mr. Nabulsi said that his ministry will not hesitate to extend loans to Zarqa Municipality to help it implement its projects.

The minister was speaking during a visit to Zarqa where he met with the municipality's committee and discussed the city's public services' projects. Mr. Nabulsi praised the municipality's five-year plan describing it as ambitious, and said the ministry will help in its implementation through extending loans.

The minister said that the city is in dire need of a new system and of laws and regulations to handle violations in buildings and issuing licences for building. Such a law has been prepared and submitted to the prime ministry for endorsement and it is expected that it will solve many problems, Mr. Nabulsi said.

He said that the financial position of Zarqa Municipality is good and that citizens are paying their taxes regularly. But Mr. Nabulsi requested municipality teams to intensify their control over building operations and to stop violations.

Zarqa District Governor Mohammad Al Daba'i spoke about the municipality's new projects which include among other things, building bridges at Zawahreh and Awajan, enlarging roads and building a central market place, setting up a handicraft zone, building warehouses and buildings to be let to the public. Also included in the plan is establishing a sports city, cultural centres and public parks.

Following the meeting, the minister, accompanied by Mr. Daba'i and other officials made a tour of the city and inspected its projects. The minister earlier called at Russeifa and met with the chairman of the municipality's council Mislak Al Tarawneh to discuss the town's projects. Mr. Tarawneh submitted to the minister a working paper that include problems facing the city and proposed solutions.

Sharaf meets new members of journalists association

AMMAN (Petra) — Sixteen journalists were sworn in Tuesday as members of the Jordanian Journalists Association (JJA) before Information Minister Laila Sharaf.

In a speech on the occasion, Mrs. Sharaf paid tribute to the role of the Jordanian press and its commitment to report the truth and to present the news in an objective manner. The minister expressed the hope that the new members will help to promote the role and services of the JJA.

JJA President Mahmoud Al Kayed made a reply speech praising the existing cooperation between the association and the Ministry of Information and thanked the ministry for the facilities offered to Jordanian journalists.

The new JJA members are: Mohammad Ka'wash, Hashem Al Tarawneh, Khalil Al Kshhi, Mohammad Al 'Abbad, Nazmi Al Sa'id, Mufid Awad, Salah Shbou, Fuad Al Hamidi, Mohammad 'Aref, Mohammad Hijazi, Abdul Majid Abu Khaled, Shafer Al Namours, Rabab Mango, Samir Al Hiyari, Wafaa' Ahmad and Mohammad Al Milkawi.

Talented musicians present authentic jazz interpretations

By Jean Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A jazz concert, organised at the Goethe Institute in Amman on Monday evening, performed by the Amman Jazz Band had many of the best musical elements found in the hottest international jazz formations.

The fact is that the band members are no beginners. Khaled Dajani on keyboard, Raja Kawa on drums, Roger Lewis on bass guitar and Alfred Protz on guitar have been playing and enjoying jazz music for more than 15 or 20 years. Some of them have been involved in studio recording sessions with well-known musicians and Mr. Protz has played with professional bands in Germany.

In Jordan, the Amman Jazz Band has played at the Jerash Festival in 1983 and 1984, in addition to a concert at the Royal Cultural Centre earlier this year.

Tribute must be paid to the band for playing one of the most interesting but also most difficult types of music. In the Middle East, where pop and classical music are the prevailing styles as far as Western music is concerned, jazz has characteristics which make it appealing to a limited number of people. In Europe or the United States where the big money is in pop music, some musicians deliberately abandon the jazz scene to join pop groups. Fortunately, there are still a good number of them who stay with jazz. Though it finds its roots in popular music, jazz has evolved to become technically complex and modern jazz is closer to modern classical music than any other style, with extensive use of sophisticated percussion and daring harmony textures that often seem shocking to the non-initiated person.

Solid rhythms

The performance at the Goethe Institute, attended by a small but enthusiastic crowd, created a very friendly and warm atmosphere. The band started with "affirmation", written by George Benson and although the acoustics of the room were not ideal for such music, the Amman Jazz Band delivered a good sound, free from electronic gimmicks, and based on authentic interpretation by talented musicians with impressive solos by Alfred Protz, solid rhythms by Raja Kawa, strong timing by Roger Lewis and creative phrasing by Khaled Dajani. They also played "Take Five", by Dave Brubeck, with a special and effective arrangement by the band. "Light My Fire" by the Doors and a version of "Besame Mucho", that Julio Iglesias would better not try to sing.

Young people who are exclusively pop or disco oriented should be given the opportunity to discover that modern music is not only made for dancing. This would broaden their perception of music, increase their listening pleasure and make them share unique rhythmic experiences available only through jazz. The only way to achieve this is by creating more occasions for jazz concerts in Jordan, and more important, attending such events.

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Gorbachev woos Britons with a warm smile

By Mark Wood
 Reuter

LONDON — Mikhail Gorbachev, the prominent politburo member, has emerged from the obscurity of Kremlin politics to woo the British with a warm smile and a winning way on his first major overseas trip.

Cutting a very different style to the dour, reserved image usually adopted by Kremlin chiefs, he has impressed British leaders with a sharp intellect and sense of humour and delighted the public with an easy manner in front of the cameras.

"He is not at all what we expected and much more like a politician in the Western mould — confident, charismatic, and very aware of how to present himself," one British official said.

Before his trip to Britain the 53-year-old politburo member had been an almost mysterious figure. His unusually rapid rise through the ranks of the Communist Party had been well documented but almost nothing was known about the man himself.

But since he flew into London last Saturday he has astonished both British and Soviet officials with the impact he has made on his hosts.

Television stations have led their news bulletins with extensive coverage of Mr. Gorbachev's activities while newspapers have warmly praised his personality and quoted at length from his declarations that Moscow is committed to peace and détente.

The enthusiasm has gone so far that right-wing dailies sounded a note of caution Monday. A Times leader titled "Enter a Bear, Smiling" warned Britons that they should not get so carried away as to "forget the real nature of the Soviet system."

"We have been quite amazed at the positive reception he has received and the way he has proved so popular. His visit has been extremely successful from the Soviet viewpoint," one Russian official said privately.

One British source said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had found Mr. Gorbachev "a very impressive man, a man of obvious authority and influence". She had also been pleased by his almost constant smile and his witty remarks.

Mr. Gorbachev gave a public demonstration of his humour when he visited the British Museum reading room, where Karl Marx worked on "Das Kapital", the bible of the Communist movement.

"If people are anti-Marxist, they should put the blame on the British Museum," he declared to museum officials.

During tours of British businesses the veteran party official has also made a deep impression with a detailed command of technical matters and an ability to grasp explanations of new technology with speed and ease.

"If Mr. Gorbachev has helped boost bilateral relations by winning the confidence of British leaders, he has also performed wonders for Moscow's image among ordinary Britons.

"If the Russians are all like him, I don't know what we're worried about," one London taxi driver said.

Like many older Britons, he said Mr. Gorbachev reminded him of former leader Nikita Khrushchev, whose affable and jokey style won over the British when he toured the country in the 1950s.

The undoubted success of Mr. Gorbachev's trip will be a cause of double satisfaction to him.

For apart from the foreign policy aspects, it was clearly intended to enhance his prestige at home and strengthen his standing in the party leadership by showing he could deal competently with the West.

Moscow ponders Israel

THE MEETING that was held in Washington last week between the Soviet and Israeli ambassadors to the U.S. might have produced no real progress, but nevertheless it was an event that we here watched with interest. The way the meeting was reported was also of significance. The two ambassadors broke no new ground on resuming their diplomatic relations, we were told, but that they exchanged views on Middle East peace moves and both seemed to like the opportunity to meet each other to discuss their problems.

The event might have given both the Soviets and the Israelis the chance to discuss a thorny question: how the Israelis could agree to the idea of holding an international conference on Middle East peace. The Israeli government has maintained that its opposition to the idea of the conference is mainly based on its rejection of a Soviet role in the search for a settlement unless and until Moscow resumes its diplomatic ties with Tel Aviv. How true this contention is, and how serious a genuine condition it is, could not be known yet. But, following the two ambassadors' meeting in Washington, there seems to be some movement on how such a problem could be tackled in the future.

For Moscow, resuming ties with Israel at this stage is all the more difficult since the Israelis themselves, with their intransigent policies in the area, are making it almost impossible for the Soviets to move to improve ties with them. Accordingly, only one of two options is available to them to restore ties with Israel: Either the Israelis agree to the international conference and expect the Soviets to reciprocate later or simultaneously; or the Arabs urge Moscow to move first on the question in order to open the door for real progress on the peace front.

Given the current state of affairs in the Middle East and on the international level, it is highly unlikely that the Arabs will act as one in issuing a call for the Soviet Union to restore ties with Israel, assuming the intention is there, that is, and that the step would be of any use to the cause of peace in the region. This leaves Moscow on its own to work out an acceptable compromise for itself on how best to nudge the Israelis and at the same time keep strong its friendship and trust with the Arab World.

The question is by no means easy. And it should be of interest to all of us to see how far the Soviet Union is prepared to go in any one direction.

President Mitterrand has made use of Claude Cheysson's departure from the Foreign Ministry to make a few changes in the composition of the cabinet. The two outstanding features of this reshuffle are Ronald Dumas's appointment as foreign minister and Georgina Dufour's as government spokeswoman. An unusual appointment was that of Gilbert Trigano, the president of the Club Méditerranée, as government representative responsible for new job training schemes. Jack Lang, who was secretary of state for culture, has been made a full minister.

By Bernard Brigueux

MR. CHEYSSON's replacement by Mr. Dumas certainly came as no surprise. It was at the Dublin summit on Dec. 4 that Mr. Mitterrand announced the foreign minister's transfer to the Brussels commission. For weeks it had been known he was going and his successor's name was an open secret, even if right up to the last week the speculation in the Foreign Ministry was that Mr. Dumas's appointment was not a foregone conclusion.

On the other hand, what is surprising is the timing of the double operation. Considering that he was due to make a number of visits which would have taken him to Bujumbura (Burundi) and other African capitals before winding up in Brussels in mid-December, Mr. Cheysson must have felt some bitterness when he learned — just a few hours before he was to board a plane for Rome (for the signing of the Rome Convention) — that the cabinet reshuffle, which has been under consideration for weeks, suddenly could not be put off any longer. The haste can only highlight the near-punitive character of his return to the European Community Commission under the orders of his former colleague in Finance, Jacques Delors.

The first of the three reasons behind this governmental move has however nothing to do with Mr. Cheysson's position and the increasing irritation his performance as foreign minister was said to be causing at the Elysee. It was Prime Minister Laurent Fabius himself who considered that, as the succession at the Quai d'Orsay was officially open, prolonging such a transitional situation could only damage the French representative's credibility at the various international meetings he was due to attend in Africa and Europe.

It was therefore better to clarify things as quickly as possible. Well might the continuity of state be one of the oldest principles of French public affairs, but personality issues inevitably play a part, and it cannot be either very pleasant or very effective to function as a minister on borrowed time, especially after this had become official. Shuffling the cabinet

just before the Franco-African summit (which opened in Bujumbura, Burundi, on Monday) had the advantage of also clarifying the position of another minister, Christian Nucci (Cooperation), over whom the axe was rumoured to be hanging and who also ran the risk of being seen in Bujumbura as a lame duck.

The other two reasons behind the Foreign Ministry's sudden switch have to do more with Mr. Cheysson himself. Here again, Mr. Fabius's reasoning played a part in the Elysee's decision, though it is true the arguments found quite a favourable terrain in the president's own views on the subject.

In the first place, both the Elysee and Matignon feared Mr. Cheysson might drop another brick over the Chad affair — a fear undoubtedly stemming from some undoubted remarks the former foreign minister made about the famous "joint (Franco-Libyan) statement of Sept. 16" that each passing day has proved means little to its Libyan signatories. The disclosure of the message of friendship that Mr. Cheysson had sent to his counterpart in Tripoli, Ali Triki — a message whose contents were far from fulsome than the customary expressions of diplomatic good wishes — probably ended by convincing the Elysee and the Matignon that, given the public's sceptical reaction to the

Crete meeting (with Colonel Qadhafi), it was a priority not to run the risk of adding ridicule to the admission of an understandable confusion.

Secondly, all the signs were — beginning with the reaction of the Chadian Press Agency which expressed satisfaction over Mr. Cheysson's replacement — that the Bujumbura Franco-African summit was not going to be the most auspicious, to put it mildly, if Mr. Cheysson represented French foreign policy alongside the President. Paris had heard from various sources that the foreign minister was going to be the target of stiff criticism at Bujumbura and that, even as a virtual lame duck, his mere presence at the meeting would add to the deep unease and concern felt by France's African allies.

Which is why Mr. Cheysson, who was initially expected to join Mr. Mitterrand from Rome where the convention between the EEC and the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) countries was signed, returned instead to Paris, while Mr. Dumas accompanied President Mitterrand to the Franco-African summit. All the same, nobody dared to refuse to let Mr. Cheysson make this last visit (Lome) in his official capacity. He has just capped one of the European Community's successes with the Third World, a success to which, first as a com-

missioner in Brussels and later as minister, he had made a steady, active and effective personal contribution.

Nonetheless, it makes one uncomfortable to consider that Cheysson's fall was precipitated by the Chad-Libya business in which his successor (Roland Dumas) once prided himself on having played a decisive role after which "normal diplomacy can now take over". (Dumas made the statement in a radio programme on Sept. 23.) But Dumas at least had the foresight to step back as it gradually became clear that the Libyans were not respecting the agreement, while Mr. Cheysson made courageous, if increasingly unwise, attempts to convince successive audiences that there was a relatively sound basis to the agreement with "Dear Ali".

The changeover in the Quai d'Orsay which took place on Sunday, Dec. 9, at any rate marks the end of a period during which, for considerations that sometimes had more to do with domestic than foreign policy, the Elysee banked heavily, and not without success, on Europe. A sign of this is the fact that the post to which Catherine Lalumière has been appointed (European affairs) now reverts to being a mere state secretary, whereas for Roland Dumas the office had been upgraded from delegate ministry to "full ministry".

The six months in which France presided over the European Council — Mr. Mitterrand had made it his personal affair — required that this department at the Quai d'Orsay be filled by someone utterly loyal and having a symbiotic relationship with presidential thinking. As a matter of fact, Mr. Mitterrand's grand passion for Europe is not spent. On the contrary, he would like to make the

march towards European union one of the "great causes" of his presidency. But the community calendar being what it is, it will be a long time before the presidency falls to France again. And, in any case, the new distribution of authority will in practice give all real power in taking initiatives in this area to Mr. Dumas, while Catherine Lalumière will have to mind budget problems, quotas and wine surpluses which Mr. Mitterrand finds less interesting than the reform of institutions.

Roland Dumas arrives at the Quai d'Orsay with the ambiguous reputation of being a "president's man" that his predecessor never had among either his admirers or detractors. Mr. Dumas is certainly far more flexible where facts are concerned than Mr. Cheysson, who never despaired of bending facts to principles, but he is also both by nature and loyalty to the man in the Elysee more inclined to play things by ear — Le Monde.

Chemical industry: Lower safety measures in 3rd World?

Some 2,000 people died in a horrific accident at a Union Carbide chemical plant in India earlier this month, and many are thought to be afflicted by serious injuries. Tony Jackson looks at the precedents, and lessons of the tragedy for the world's chemical industry.

LONDON — The last few weeks have been a nightmare for the chemicals and petrochemicals industry around the world. On Nov. 19, a liquefied gas explosion in Mexico City cost over 450 lives. Just two weeks later, on Monday Dec. 3, came the even more appalling disaster at Bhopal in India.

The Pemex plant at Mexico City was on the fringes of one of the largest conurbations in the world. Union Carbide's Bhopal plant is some three miles from the centre of a city the size of Glasgow. In both cases — and in another gas disaster near Sao Paulo, Brazil, in February — the first victims were shanty dwellers drawn to the plants as centres of wealth and employment.

But there are no grounds for pigeonholing this as a "Third World" problem. In Europe, the U.S. and Japan there are many thousands of potentially hazardous chemical plants.

In the U.K. alone there are some 1,500 plants containing dangerous chemicals in large enough quantities to harm those in the surrounding area. Of those, around 250 are classed as major accident hazards. A number of them are in or near centres of population.

Plainly, one of the key questions is whether different standards of installation and maintenance obtain in the developed and developing countries. For multinationals, this poses a dilemma.

Few companies would concede the claim being put forward by the Indian authorities in the Bhopal case — that standards in the "Third World" are lower. But to argue the converse — as Union Carbide has done — is to imply that the same could happen anywhere. Logically enough, therefore, Union Carbide has suspended its manufacture in the U.S. of methyl isocyanate, the chemical which caused the Bhopal disaster. (Methyl isocyanate is an immensely powerful irritant, which acts on the lungs to flood them with fluid so that the victim in effect drowns.)

There is another aspect to the problem. Many developing countries commissioned chemical plants in the 1970s, when they were awash either with borrowed funds or with petrodollars. In the very different conditions of the 1980s, can they afford the hard currency required for sophisticated maintenance?

The U.K.'s Davy Corporation.

one of the biggest international contractors in the field, says they can. "My experience," says a Davy executive, "is that developing countries are unusually sensitive on maintenance. Countries like India are also pretty good at it, so they only need a small number of outsiders."

One might suspect special pleading here, were it not for further evidence from an unusually objective source.

Insurance companies which specialise in chemical risk worldwide agree that there are no clear differences in premium rates on plants in developed and developing countries. "It's impossible to generalise," says one London expert. "A good company in India could get cheaper rates than a bad one in the U.K."

It might be thought that some aspects of the Bhopal disaster could not be reproduced in the developed world. The plant was far too close to a major centre of population. The authorities had allowed shanty dwellers to settle around it. At the critical point of the disaster, two plant workers panicked and ran away.

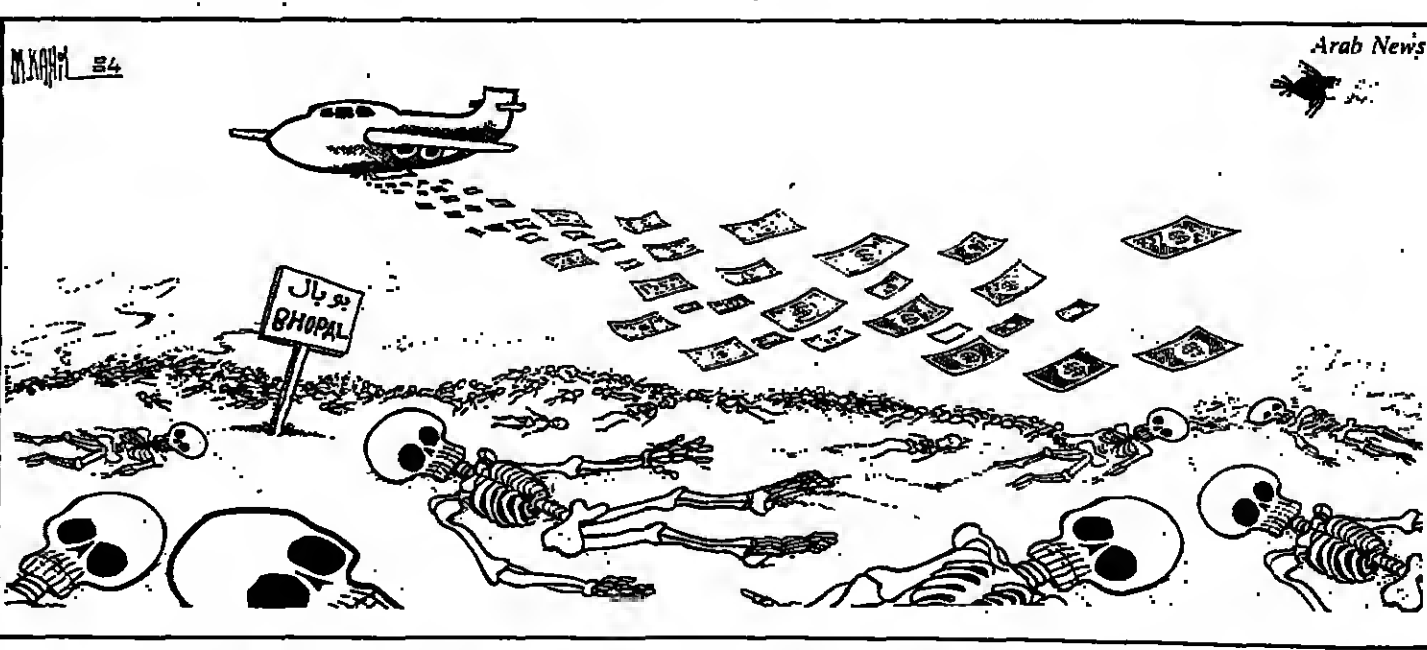
But there is no prescription against panic, and operator failure is not confined to India. The problem of shanty towns, certainly, is a local one. But on the critical question of where sites are located in the first place there is less ground for confidence.

The chemicals industry is a mature one, and the siting of plants around the world was in some cases determined 50 years ago and more. Construction of the Pemex plant in Mexico City began in the 1930s, and the plant was then remote from the city.

Of U.K. plants posing one of the three types of chemical hazard — flammable, toxic or ecotoxic (pollutant) — a number of older ones are now in or near large population centres. The authorities are aware of their locations and exact nature, but neither they nor the industry will publish lists. Partly, this is due to a national concern that such plants could become targets for terrorists or vandals. But the reluctance is also part of a lack of candour which bedevils the whole topic.

In fact, greater disclosure is shored to be enforced by the European Economic Community (EEC).

In the wake of the Seveso incident in 1976, when a quantity of lethal dioxin was released in northern Italy, a directive has been drawn up — known in shorthand form as the Seveso Directive — which is to apply to all member countries in the U.K.'s case probably from next month.



ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Fruitful dialogue

DIRECT AND open dialogue between the government and the public is probably the shortest and easiest way to achieve aspired goals. Monday's cabinet session in Salt like those before held in Karak and Aqaba was designed to reaffirm the government's determination to seek solutions for the citizens' problems and to bring about true sense of cooperation between the government and the citizens in implementing development projects.

Direct question and answer and direct enquiries about various public affairs help remove all barriers between officials and the public, and paves the way for sincere joint action for the benefit of all. Of course the government is committed to its programmes of development but it requires assistance from the various sectors of the public if progress is to be achieved.

In their speeches, the prime minister and citizens stressed the need of joint planning and they both emphasised that the government can only act within its own means and capabilities. We hope that such open sessions will help give momentum to joint cooperation aimed at serving the country and its people.

Al Dustour: promoting popular participation

NO DOUBT that the open cabinet meeting held in Salt Monday was an implementation of the royal letter of designation to the government when it was formed earlier this year. The session was aimed at enhancing the relationship between the ruler and the citizen.

This session and others like it no doubt reaffirm Jordan's deep faith in democracy and in granting all citizens the right to express their views about the best way of achieving success and progress for the country. The session tackled a number of issues and problems that are on the minds of the people all the time, but the whole session was characterised by objectivity, and the speakers were realistic and as they showed their understanding of the heavy burden of the government and therefore were careful to make requests that can be possibly carried out.

The session was a move to enlist public assistance in taking part in the planning as well as implementing development projects in their regions. The frank and open discussion between the two sides is bound to enhance self-confidence in the government and the public, and will no doubt help overcome the problems now faced by both.

Sawt Al Shaab: Profitable interaction

IT HAS become a tradition for the government of Ahmad Obeidat to hold open sessions in various governorates where cabinet members can make a close-hand study of the problems and can discuss with the citizens ways for solving them.

At the Salt cabinet session the prime minister made it clear that the government draws on confidence of the public, and benefits from cooperation it gets from citizens towards achieving progress. Joint planning, which the prime minister referred to, was aimed at giving the citizens a greater role in public work and in executing schemes for their own benefit.

The session and the discussions help to bridge the gap between the ruler and the people and can create mutual trust that is necessary for any successful scheme. The local government and the ambitious agricultural schemes the prime minister referred to are designed to stop the movement of people from rural to urban regions, which will help develop all parts of the country on equal footing.

The more the government members meet with the public in such useful and meaningful dialogue the better will be the chances for success in every field.

Canada boosts private sector

By Doug Long
 Reuter

OTTAWA — Canada's new progressive Conservative government, saddled with persistent high unemployment and a soaring budget deficit, is turning to the private sector to boost a fragile economic recovery.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has made it clear he intends to steer away from the interventionist role of the former Liberal government to allow business to be the main engine of economic growth.

By slashing federal spending and holding the deficit to about \$27 billion for the fiscal year beginning next April 1, the government believes it has signalled its intention to create a better climate for business in economic planning.

Less than three months after winning the biggest parliamentary majority in Canadian history, the Conservatives have begun a fresh round of consultations to hear the views of business in advance of a new budget expected in April.

"First, government policies must be changed to ensure that Canada's private sector can become the driving force of economic renewal," said Finance Minister Michael Wilson.

While cautioning that Canada's economic ills have been years in the making and cannot be rectified overnight, the government has made deficit reduction its top priority.

"Our immediate goal is to reduce the deficit through expenditure reductions and not through major tax increases," Mr. Wilson told parliament last month.

The Conservatives have received some good news since taking office. The economy grew in real terms at a surprising 7.6 per cent annual rate during the third quarter, ensuring the target of 4.2 per cent growth in the year as a whole will be met.

Exports have paced the recovery to date and a record high merchandise trade surplus of about \$1.8 billion was achieved in October.

But with the U.S. economy slowing down, and about 70 per cent of Canadian exports headed for that market, economic forecasters are united in predicting a slowdown for 1985.

The new government has also conceded that its hopes for continued expansion rest in large part on the ability of the United States to trim its own budget deficit.

Mr. Wilson says the lower interest rates that would result are a key element of his hopes for continued growth.

Regardless of Ottawa's success in trimming the deficit, unemployment seems certain to remain above 10 per cent for at least another year.

The Conservatives reluctantly admit that while they believe business confidence is the key to growth and job creation, it will take more than a year to cut into the country's 1.5 million jobs rate.

Soft rock with a hard core has dominated 1984 melodies

Robin Denslow looks back at the best of rock and jazz in 1984



Every word was once a poem:
Each began as a picture.

GEOLOGIST

The geologist, whose profession is geology and who investigates geological phenomena, derives his name from a combination of Greek geos, "earth", and ology, "study of." Geos is also found in geometry, literally measuring the earth, or that branch of mathematics which treats of the measurement and properties of solid and plane figures, such as angles, triangles, squares, spheres, prisms, et cetera, all of which are, strictly speaking, forms found on the earth.

BIOLOGIST

The biologist is so called from his study of all living forms; the first two syllables of his title are from Greek bios, "life". Bios "life", is also found in biography, "writing about someone's life"; autobiography, "the story about one's life written by oneself; and biopsy, "a medical examination, generally through a microscope, of tissue removed from a living body for the purpose of determining the disease that afflicts it."

ZOOLOGIST

The zoologist is a student of zoology. He is named after the Greek zoon, "animal." The combination of the two o's tempts many people to pronounce the first three letters of these words in one syllable, thus: zoo. However, the two o's should be separated as in cooperate, even though no hyphen is used in the spelling to indicate such separation.

LOGY

Ology, it was decided, means the "study of." The log, part comes from a Greek word logos, which means "word," and in philology the last three syllables are related to logos, "word"; philology, strictly, is a love of words, hence, by extension, the study of linguistics.

ASTRONOMER

Astronomer is built on Greek astron, "star", and nomos, "arrangement, law, or order." The astronomer is interested in the arrangement of stars and other celestial bodies. The adjective astronomical is a word often used in a non-heavenly sense, as in "the astronomical size of the national debt." The root astron "star", is also combined with our old friend nology in astrology the pseudoscience which claims it can foretell the future by a study of the stars.

BOTANIST

The botanist is formed on Greek botane, "plant." The field is botany. The famed botanical gardens of Bronx Park, in New York, contain thousands of varieties of plants from all over the world.

— Ahmad Jaber

IT WAS, as the title of the Talking Heads film put it, a year to Stop Making Sense, a confused, fragmented year in which Orwell's nightmare visions became a dance-floor hit, the best-selling British band gave no live performances (at least in their own country), and even Bruce Springsteen made a pop video. The trend, as far as any trend could be traced in the plethora of styles, was towards a softer, more folksy or jazzy approach on both sides of the Atlantic, though that was hardly reflected by the success of bearded boogie merchants ZZ Top, or the two bands that delighted the industry's moguls by providing a dash of hysteria and the fantastic rarely seen since the Beatles days.

In Britain the phenomenon was known as Frankie Goes To Hollywood, and in America it was Michael Jackson, and it was typical of 1984 that the two should have almost nothing in common, apart from making great dance records.

The Frankies completely dominated the British singles charts with their first two records, which were really elaborately-crafted, extended concept-songs, using voices, effects, and masterful hi-tech production by Trevor Horn, along with skilful publicity work from Paul Morley, who almost matched Malcolm McLaren in making media manipulation an art form. The band's album, Welcome To The Pleasure Dome, contains great moments (the opening side and the singles), and has to rank among the best of the year despite a very weak third side. The

Frankies' live British debut in Liverpool on Dec. 20 should be one of the more interesting events of '84 still to come.

In America, Michael Jackson dominated events with an album released two years earlier. Thriller kept selling in such ridiculous numbers that by the end of the year it had sold over 45 million copies world-wide, and was still in the bestsellers in many countries, making it by far the biggest commercial success in pop history. Jackson celebrated by re-uniting with his brothers for the Jacksons Victory Tour, the American box-office event of the year, though the Jacksons' reunion Victory Album was a dismal disappointment.

The most successful new black American performer was Prince, a seedy-looking contender for Jackson's throne, but in the year that saw the tragic death of the great Marvin Gaye, veteran black artists also found themselves back in favour. Bobby Womack, a legendary figure from the Sixties soul days, released Poet 2 as well as a brilliant retrospective, Somebody Special, and delighted British audiences with one of the most varied, energetic shows of the year.

Tina Turner, long established as a wonderful live performer, returned to the best-sellers with her studiously commercial Private Dancer album, while former Rufus singer Chaka Khan at last notched up a major hit with I Feel For You. Stevie Wonder, who performed on it, also recorded one of the more throw-away commercial albums of his career.



Victory of Michael Jackson

White American taste was predominantly conservative, as reflected by the sizeable youth vote for President Reagan, and new heroes like Huey Lewis were often traditional-style rockers. Bruce Springsteen, the undisputed white king, whose gutsy image contrasts with his stirring but sensitive stories of everyday blue-collar life, reportedly gave a stunning series of live shows, and certainly released a strong new album, Born In The USA.

But there were some signs of a "new wave" of American styles developing, often influenced by the Sixties or by traditional material. The Dream Syndicate, from the West Coast, and the gentler REM from Georgia, both echoed different Sixties styles while the Violent Femmes were both folksy and experimental, and Los Lobos were the latest in the grand tradition of all-American barroom

bands. Meanwhile, the "new British invasion" continued to wash over America, helped by the continual stream of glossy videos on MTV. Duran Duran won badly needed credibility by teaming up with Nile Rodgers, and began to sound more like a conventional rock band, Culture Club, whose looks became increasingly more startling than their music, were used by the American police to lure suspects out of hiding with the promise of free tickets, and even Wham! ended the year topping the American charts. This healthy-looking duo achieved remarkable success with a catchy pastiche of Motown styles, despite the fact that one of them appeared to do absolutely nothing at all.

Along with the stylishly-dressed, white soul boys, the "new British rock" still swept across America with its blend of the stirring and

the melodic. The best exponents, Dublin's U2, recorded a bravely subtle album with the help of producer Brian Eno, while Big Country failed to quite live up to last year's rousing debut with their second album, Steeltown. Simple Minds' Sparkle In The Rain was a third strong contender.

Back in Britain, both those styles, and all those hands, continued to be popular, but there was also a revival of a softer, folkier or jazzier approach. The miners' strike, and the growing north-south divide in the country was also reflected in the return of political songs.

Billy Bragg, a guitar-playing soloist, best summed up the mood with angry songs about the right-wing press or the Falklands, and like many musicians was active at miners' benefits. Even more subversive, as far as the record industry was concerned, was the fact that he brought out a cur-purse album which became a best-seller.

Elvis Costello, another performer known for introducing political material along with his R&B and country styles, also followed the solo trend by giving a series of concerts without his band, in which both his lyrics and his voice came over triumphantly.

Elsewhere, the new "softrock" produced a whole set of good and different bands, from the gentle guitar band The Smiths, famed for the realism and gloom in Morrissey's lyrics, through to the more swirling folksy style of Aztec Camera, the Bronski Beat's blend of fury and high vocals, the gentle jazz and latin rhythms of Everything But The Girl, or the more country styles of Lloyd Cole, for me the best new performer of the

year. Honourable mention should also be made, on the funk side, to Floy Joy, and on the experimental and instrumental side to the gently mesmeric Penguin Cafe Orchestra, the funk and systems fusions of Man Jumping, and the studio wizardry of Trevor Horn's The Art Of Noise.

From outside Britain and America, there was continued interest in African styles, helped by British concerts by King Sunny Ade from Nigeria, and Zimbabwe's Thomas Mapfumo. Fela Kuti was less successful, and ended the year in jail in Nigeria, amidst accusations that his arrest was a result of his political song-writing.

Top Ten

- Lloyd Cole and the Commotions: Rattlesnakes (Polydor).
- Brewing Up With Billy Bragg (Go-Discs).
- Who's Afraid Of The Art Of Noise? (ZTT).
- Elvis Costello: Goodbye Cruel World (F.Beats).
- REM: Reckoning (IRS).
- Frankie Goes To Hollywood: Welcome To The Pleasure Dome (ZTT).
- U2: The Unforgettable Fire (Island).
- The Special AKA: In The Studio (2 Tone).
- Echo And The Bunnymen: Ocean Rain (Korora).
- Bruce Springsteen: Born In The USA (CBS).

Best performers

- Bobby Womack
- Elvis Costello Solo



Disappointment from Annie Lennox

Aswad
Thomas Mapfumo

Disappointments

- Paul McCartney: Give My Regards To Broad Street (Parlophone).
- Stevie Wonder: The Woman In Red (Motown).
- David Bowie: Jonathan (EMI).
- Furry Likelihood: 1984 (Virgin).

— The Guardian

Unprecedented drug case unfurls

(Continued from page 1)

lawyers in Amman, the interception of an arms "consignment" by Saudi Arabian border police last summer which unveiled the smuggling network and Qdahi's leading role in its operations.

Apparently, one of the smugglers, who was condemned to death in Saudi Arabia, confessed prior to his execution, on Qdahi's complicity.

The discovery, according to informed sources, was going to cause a "diplomatic crisis" between Saudi Arabia and Jordan but the government moved swiftly to apprehend the culprits and launched a comprehensive investigation into the affair.

The findings of the investigation were startling and revealed that Qdahi had a dual role in that of a brilliant mastermind behind the smuggling operations that of a "honest and effective" chief of Jordan's Anti-Narcotic Squad. Qdahi also managed to make good money by playing both roles successfully, according to details disclosed in the list of accusations.

Qdahi used to ask Jordanian and foreign drug dealers to smuggle drugs to Jordan while he would make the necessary "arrangements and contacts" with the anti-narcotic squads in the countries of origin to facilitate the operation, the list of accusations said. After the arrival of the consignment in Jordan, Qdahi would "buy" the merchandise instead of arresting the smugglers and confiscating the drugs.

To cover his actions he used to sell the merchandise through his collaborators, collect the money

and then officially arrest the drug smugglers.

"Exporting" drugs abroad brought more profit for Qdahi because it enabled him to make his money through legal means. The list of accusations explains that after "exporting" the merchandise and selling it, after collecting the money, Qdahi used to tip off anti-narcotic squads about the consignments and collect a reward for his "honest" tip off.

The list of accusations, which includes detailed incidents of recent drug and arms smuggling, indicates that Qdahi was not directly involved in arms trafficking. Moreover, the charges against Qdahi, which ranged from accepting bribery to embezzlement and drug trafficking, do not include smuggling or possession of arms. But the cases cited in the list indicate that leading members of the smuggling gang, particularly, Khalaf Al Fayed, who has coordinated most of the drug trafficking operations with Qdahi, were found guilty of smuggling guns and revolvers.

Fayed was sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment and a fine of JD 3,000.

According to the Military Court verdict, the following were sentenced to 10 years in prison and fined JD 3,000 each: Nazmi Darwish Al Beik, Walid Sari Abdullah, Abdullah Qasem Sulaiman "Al Kalaz", Kayed Ahmad Briosh, Barakat Mofleh Qetfan, Mohammad Al Bashaisheh, Mahmoud Marashdeh, Said Al Hani, Hassan Abu Jamer, Khaled Ayed Al Nader, Adnan Sulran and Mottab Fayed.

The following were sentenced to eight years in prison and fined

with various amounts (in brackets):

Salim Salem Sheihah (JD 3,000), Mohammad Khalid Abu Kas (JD 3,000), Badawi Al Jabali (JD 3,000), Issa Al Rashdan (JD 3,000), Fawaz Al Fayed (no fine) and Fayed Akafali (no fine).

Other sentences were passed on the following:

Sami Halasah — two years and JD 50 fine; Khalaf Mohammad Al Fayed — 15 years and JD 3,000 fine; Ahmad Yousef Al Rifal — four years and JD 666 fine; Salim Yassin — three years and JD 5,000 fine; Yassin Muafaq Yassin — three years and JD 15,000 fine; Zuhair Disamieh — one year; Mahmoud Barghouti — seven and a half years; Samir Joza'a — five years; and Ismat Abu Al Saud — three years and JD 15,000 fine.

The following were sentenced in absentia:

Yousef Al Ha'ani — 15 years with hard labour; Mohammad Al Ha'ani — 15 years with hard labour; and Mohammad Khattari — 15 years with hard labour.

The following were named outlaws and sentenced as under: Ahmad Abu Rabi — life term with hard labour and JD 5,000 fine; Jihad Al Hakbameh — life term and JD 5,000 fine; Ghassan Taher — 15 years and JD 3,000 fine; Mousa Muasher — life term with hard labour; Mousleh Kayali — life term and JD 5,000 fine; Khaled Hourani — life term and JD 5,000 fine; Samir Khamis — life term with hard labour; Abdul Majeed Al Mahadeen — life term with hard labour and JD 5,000 fine; Mohammad Al Zobi — life term with hard labour; Abdullah Saleh Hourani — life term with

hard labour; Abdul Fatah Al Amalreh — life term with hard labour; and Mohammad Issawi — life term with hard labour and JD 5,000 fine.

Fouad Al Sheikh, a fugitive from justice for 15 years, was fined JD 3,000.

The following were found innocent and acquitted: Majed Al Qaisi, Ali Al Kaabenei, Abed Rabbo Hbeish; Azzam Al Kasji, Kamel Ghorbali, Anwar Zobi, Ghazi Al Bashaisheh, Ahmad Zobi, Mohammad Khazzali, Ibrahim Bashaisheh, Ibrahim Zobi and Mohammad Zaben.

Charges were dropped against Mahmoud Abu Hattar and Ahmad Khattab. The verdict said the name of Mohammad Abu Oweis was mentioned in the case by mistake.

Twelve Saudi nationals were sentenced to life with JD 5,000 fine each. They are:

Mohammad Al Howciti, Ibrahim Salameh, Mohammad Ashi, Abdullah Ousoul, Mohammad Ibn Awad, Abdul Ma'arouf Shalabi, Ibrahim Attouri, Neithan Harbi, Ahmad Otusi, Mohammad Otwi, Hamid Harbi and Salameh Otwi.

Four Egyptians were also sentenced for life with hard labour and a fine of JD 5,000 each. They are:

Mohammad Faisal, Ahmad Al Deen, Aleem Murad, and the only woman convicted in the case, Hala Allam.

Thirteen Lebanese were sentenced for life with a fine of JD 5,000 each.

Six Syrians were sentenced for life with hard labour and a fine of JD 5,000 each.



W.German "Red-Whites" — first and second places at the World Champions in dancing (Inter National photo).

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Sweden claims Davis Cup

GOTHENBURG, Sweden (R) — Sweden won the Davis Cup Tennis Championship for the second time Monday night when Stefan Edberg and Anders Jarryd stunned John McEnroe and Peter Fleming 7-5, 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 in a tense doubles match of nearly three hours.

The triumph, which gave Sweden a 3-0 lead over the U.S. team and earned them the trophy for the first time since 1975, ended the American pair's victory streak in Davis Cup doubles matches at 14. McEnroe and Fleming had never lost before Monday night.

The surprising doubles result followed the outstanding performances by Mats Wilander and Henrik Sundstrom in the singles on Sunday, when Wilander crushed Jimmy Connors 6-1, 6-3, 6-3 and Sundstrom upset McEnroe 13-11, 6-4, 6-3.

The young Swedish team, with an average age of just 20, thus denied the considerably more experienced U.S. team their 29th championship title and their fifth in seven years.

Their display set the seal on Sweden's steady advance as a tennis superpower, a process launched by Bjorn Borg who led the country to their first Davis Cup title in 1975.

For McEnroe, playing his fifth Davis Cup final, it was a doubly bitter pill to swallow after his loss to Sundstrom Sunday, and he repeated his criticism of the court, the lighting and the timing of the event.

The Americans had wanted the tie staged after Christmas.

"This court is unacceptable to play on and it's unbelievable to play a Davis Cup final one week before Christmas," he said.

The star of the match was Edberg, who will not be 19 until next month. The winner of the junior Grand Slam in 1983 served brilliantly, not losing his serve in the match, and his returns and volleys created the openings for service breaks.

"I've never served so well before in such an important doubles match," Edberg said.

The Swedish performance vindicated non-playing captain Hans Olsson's decision to build a special

indoor clay court at the Scandinavium here to take the sting out of a fast American team, a ploy which France tried unsuccessfully at Grenoble in 1982.

Asked if Sweden could retain the title next year, Olsson pointed to the recent success of Wilander and Edberg on grass and said: "We are not pessimistic about playing on other surfaces."

Wilander, 20 and ranked fourth in the world, retained the Australian Open title in Melbourne on grass eight days ago. The Swedes also contested the cup final a year ago against Australia on grass in Melbourne, losing 3-2 in an experience which seemed to help them here.

None of the Americans looked at home on the clay surface and McEnroe, the world number one who was returning to tournament play after a six-week absence caused by suspension and injury, never found his form.

The Swedes took the first set 7-5 Monday night on just a single break of Fleming's serve in the last game. The tall right-hander proved vulnerable on serve throughout the match and the Swedes exploited the weakness to devastating effect.

Fleming expressed frustration with his poor serving, and added: "We had two or three different chances to come back, we just didn't put it together."

In the second set, the Americans broke Jarryd in the seventh game and took a 5-3 lead. Edberg, by far the most consistent of the four, saved three set points on his serve for 5-4 and was largely responsible for breaking McEnroe with a series of powerful service returns to make it 5-5.

But Jarryd once again dropped his serve and Fleming served out the set to love to square the match.

Edberg and Jarryd raced through the third set in just 35 minutes, breaking Fleming in the fourth and eighth games, with Edberg again saving three break points on the way.

The result rendered Tuesday's final two singles matches superfluous and in accordance with recent Davis Cup practice they will probably be reduced to best-of-three sets. Connors plays Sundstrom and McEnroe meets Wilander.



Michel Platini led France to European Soccer Championship this year.

Sundstrom, Jarryd to meet in Masters opening round

NEW YORK (AP) — Two members of the powerful Swedish Davis Cup team, Henrik Sundstrom and Anders Jarryd, will meet in the opening round of the Volvo Masters Tennis Championships at Madison Square Garden Jan. 8-13.

Sundstrom, who upset John McEnroe Sunday to give Sweden a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five match Davis Cup final, is ranked sixth in the world. Jarryd, who teamed with Stefan Edberg Monday in the doubles match against the American pair of McEnroe and Peter Fleming, is seventh on the Association of Tennis Professionals computer.

McEnroe is top-seeded in the select 12-player field, while Jimmy Connors, McEnroe's Davis Cup teammate, is seeded No. 2. Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl No. 3 and Sweden's Mats Wilander No. 4. The seedings are determined by the year-long Volvo Grand Prix points standings.

The four seeded players receive first-round byes. In the second round, McEnroe will face the Sundstrom-Jarryd winner, and, if the seedings hold, will meet Wilander in the semifinals.

The only other pairing determined by Monday's draw was Eliot Teltscher of the U.S., against Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia in the first round. The winner will face Connors in the second round.

The final two spots in the tournament still are undecided, with two more Volvo Grand Prix tournaments remaining on the schedule. Currently, Johan Kriek of the U.S. is 11th and Vitas Gerulaitis, also of the U.S., is 12th. But Aaron Krickstein of the U.S., and South Africa's Kevin Curren still have a chance to break into the field.

One of those four will play Andres Gomez of Ecuador in a first-round match, while another will face Sweden's Joakim Nystrom. The winner will get \$100,000, with the runner-up receiving \$60,000.

France sweeps '84 honours

PARIS (R) — Michel Platini, the wide-eyed, tousled-haired pied piper of soccer, led France on a merry dance to sporting greatness in 1984.

His sorcery beguiled all who saw him — from entranced fan to bewitched opponent — and left them marvelling at his unique magic.

Formula One Grand Prix driver Alain Prost, Tour de France winner Laurent Fignon and pole-vaulter Pierre Quinon added further glory in a vintage 1984 which will be known as the 'Year of the French'.

Platini and his cohorts won the European Championship in the champagne style which has long been their hallmark.

The Juventus maestro entered 1984 as European Footballer of the Year and went on to add the European Cupwinners' Cup and Italian League Championship to his collection of honours.

Platini was also top scorer in Italy and the European Championship in which, inevitably, he was named 'Player of the Tournament'.

He is odds-on to be elected European Footballer of the Year again before the year is out, as well as French Champion of Champions, a title he won in 1977.

The French soccer party did not end with the 2-0 European Championship final win over Spain in June. Six weeks later it began anew in California when France beat Brazil by the same margin to win the Olympic title in the Pasadena Rose Bowl.

Henri Michel, who masterminded the Olympic triumph, went on to inherit the team built by the inspirational Michel Hidalgo and has already taken them a long way down the path leading to the World Cup finals in Mexico in 1986.

France have despatched Luxembourg, Bulgaria and East Germany without conceding a goal in their Group Four campaign, beating East Germany 2-0 last Saturday to make it 12 wins in 12 matches in an unprecedented year.

The European soccer triumph was the nation's most dazzling sports coup in 1984, providing a fitting emotional farewell to Hidalgo, who made France the most stylish, adventurous and attractive team in Europe, if not the world, in an eight-year reign which spanned 75 matches.

Hidalgo was carried aloft by his players, bearing the trophy. "We are swimming in happiness," he said at the end of what he called his "passionate adventure."

Quinon starred in another French adventure in August, upstaging the Americans in the Los Angeles Coliseum to hoist himself to a gold medal and prove French pole-vaulters bad the steel to win in competition as well as set world records.

Team-mate Thierry Vigneron, the European indoor champion, took the bronze and, for a few beady moments in Rome after the games, seized back the world record from Sergei Bubka — only for the Soviet vaulter to trump him at the same meeting.

French Olympic aspirations were reinforced during the year when Paris announced their bid to stage the 1992 Summer Games, following the Alpine region of Savoy, who want the Winter Games in the same year.

Prost, the diminutive prince of the motor-racing circuit, was one of the big winners of the year but was denied the final accolade of world champion by Australian team-mate Niki Lauda.

Prost won the showdown in the sun at Estoril, Portugal, to equal the record of seven Grand Prix wins in a season achieved by the late Scottish ace Jim Clark. But Lauda was just behind to clinch the championship by half a point.

France started the year looking irresistible on the rugby union field, outclassing Ireland, Wales and England with the spring-heeled running of their backs and the prolific boot of fly-half Jean-Patrick Lescaur, who set a points record in the five nations championship.

But Scotland halted the flying French, who will enter the five-nations fray against Wales here next month without the galvanic Jean-Pierre Rives, who has announced his retirement from international rugby after 10 glorious seasons.

France suffered disappointment in June when 1983 hero Yannick Noah, the first Frenchman to win the French Open tennis title in 37 years, crashed out in the quarter-finals at Roland Garros.

Noah, who fled the pressure of domestic sporting celebrity for the anonymity of New York a year ago, was dogged by injury all year and has failed to make next month's Grand Prix Masters.

But bespectacled compatriot Fignon proved it was possible to retain a crown, relegating four-time winner Bernard Hinault to second place in the Tour de France cycle classic. Hinault, however, bounced back magnificently at the end of the season and even upstaged his young rival.

France had other less-publicised world champions — 250cc motor-cyclist Christian Sarron, Karate king and queen Emmanuel Pinda and Sophie Berger and judoka Brigitte Deydier.

They lamented the demise of five European boxing champions but took heart in the past month as flyweight Antoine Montero and junior-middleweight Louis Acaries earned world title shots.

On the ski slopes, where France have long been used to seeing everyone else waltz off with the titles, the new alpine season has started brightly with slalom victories for evergreen Perrine Pelen and new hope Christelle Guignard.

But the most vivid French sporting moments of 1984 were the dizzy days of June when the verve, flair and spirit of Hidalgo's team carried off the European Championship.

From Joel Bats, who brought a rare reliability to French goalkeeping, to Bruno Bellone, fast and forceful left-winger who scored the final goal, they were in a class of their own.

In midfield they were without peer, offering the fierce competitiveness of Luis Fernandez and Jean Tigana, the impish skills of Alain Giresse and the majestic versatility of Platini.

Whatever 1985 holds for France, it is small wonder that Hidalgo and Platini, principal architects of their triumph, are said to see 1984 go. "It's a shame it's ending," each has said.

IYY plans approved

AMMAN (Petra) — Final preparations for the International Year of the Youth (IYY) and plan of action of the Jordanian National Committee (JNC) of the IYY were discussed Monday during a meeting chaired by Minister of Youth, Hani Khawarizma, in his capacity as chairman of the JNC.

The committee discussed a number of frameworks and principles related to the plan of action and programmes which focus on constructive values of the Jordanian youth and ensure their positive participation in cultural and technical activities and voluntary work.

The JNC also approved the cultural and national programmes to be carried out in various parts of the country during next year, the IYY, and to concentrate on programmes on youth through the various information media.

Best to spend Christmas in jail

LONDON (AP) — Former British soccer star George Best will spend Christmas behind bars after losing an appeal Monday against a three-month jail sentence.

The 38-year-old former Northern Ireland international was sentenced earlier this month after pleading guilty to drunken driving, assaulting a police officer and jumping bail.

He was ordered released on bail after his lawyer filed an appeal against the alleged severity of the 12-week term.

Appeals court judge Gerald Butler was told by Best's lawyers Monday that the former Manchester United winger faced going to jail "with terror."

But he ruled the sentence was "neither excessive nor unduly severe."

The court heard that Best had been driving with three times the permitted level of alcohol in his blood when he was arrested in Central London on Nov. 3.

He was released on bail to appear in court later the same day but failed to attend and an arrest warrant was issued.

Best was re-arrested after a struggle when seen entering a neighbour's house. In a further struggle inside a police van, Best punched one of the police officers in the face, the court heard.

Victorious Saudis return home

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia's national soccer team, who won the Asian Soccer Cup in Singapore on Sunday for the first time, returned home Tuesday to a tumultuous welcome and festivities never witnessed before in the conservative kingdom.

They took the trophy by beating China 2-0 in the final.

The players, wearing their foot-

ball strips, waved to crowds lining the capital's streets from a bus festooned with flowers and the kingdom's green national flags on their way to the city's main stadium.

Residents of Riyadh said the soccer fever and celebrations surpassed those earlier this year when the Saudi soccer team qualified for the Los Angeles Olympics.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT IN SHMEISANI

Three bedrooms, salon, kitchen, bathroom, veranda, centrally heated with telephone.
2. Two bedrooms, salon, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, with small garden and special entrance, centrally heated with telephone.

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Please call 667347

ANNOUNCEMENT

A memorial meeting to celebrate the 108th birthday of Quid-e-Azam, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, organised by the University of Jordan, in cooperation with the Embassy of Pakistan is being held on Tuesday, 25th December, 1984 at 3:30 p.m. at the Islamic Culture Centre, near Mosque of the University of Jordan. All the Pakistani community is cordially invited to attend.

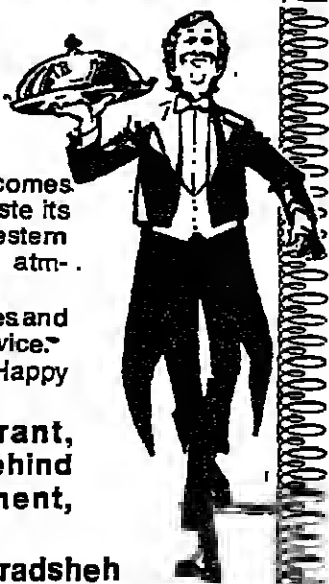
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Manager: Farouq Karadsheh



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Cinema CONCORD

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PURPLE HEARTS

Tel: 677420
Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema AL-HUSSEIN

Tel: 22117

WHO OF US IS THE THIEF

(Colour)
(Arabic)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 25155

AGAINST ALL ODDS

(Colour)
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema ZAHARAN

Tel: 23171

WHITE COLOUR
(in colour)

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 23171

IDOL MAKER

(Colour)

Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

KING OF THE RING
(in colour)

IT'S ALL FOR YOU, MY SON
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

DON'T ASK ME WHO AM I

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Philadelphia

MATT DILLON

IN

Liar's Moon

Shows at 3:30 6:30 10:15
TEL: 34144-34148

Britain to review banking supervision

LONDON (R) — The government said Monday it will carry out a thorough investigation of the way it supervises British banking following the near-collapse of the Johnson Matthey Bank two months ago.

Chancellor of the exchequer Mr. Nigel Lawson told parliament the review would look at the quality of the central bank staff which handles supervision, their relationship with the auditors of commercial banks and the way they assessed balance sheets submitted to them.

The investigating team, comprising officials from Mr. Lawson's ministry and the central bank and an independent consultant, will also consider whether changes were needed in the law.

The government is normally thought to keep a close eye on the banking business, principally through the Bank of England, but the Johnson Matthey rescue prompted questions about how the bank had been allowed to slip so near to collapse.

Mr. Lawson said Monday the review would look at the quality of the central bank staff which handles supervision, their relationship with the auditors of commercial banks and the way they assessed balance sheets submitted to them.

The investigating team, comprising officials from Mr. Lawson's ministry and the central bank and an independent consultant, will also consider whether changes were needed in the law.

Jordan stresses energy sector

AMMAN — Jordan, faced with rising oil imports and energy consumption, has cut subsidies and raised fuel prices in an attempt to reduce the financial burden.

The measures, accompanied by an energy saving campaign, reflected the government's concern about Jordan's ability to pay for imported oil without taking remedial steps.

The oil bill is a major factor in Jordan's balance of payments problems.

The search for crude on Jordanian soil is being stepped up but commercial finds in the near future remain only a hope.

Oil purchases, estimated at \$600 million this year, soak up more than 90 per cent of Jordan's export earnings. Energy Minister Hisham Al Khatib told a press conference last week.

He said Jordan's energy consumption grew at the rate of 14 per cent annually over the past decade, compared with an eight to nine per cent growth in Gross National Product (GNP).

Energy subsidies over the same period totalled 223 million dinars (\$355 million), he said.

Unless a solution is found to the problem, the people will face mounting difficulties and the national economy will worsen year after year, he said.

Jordan is among the few developing countries which does not suffer power shortages.

Foreign loans and grants have helped the government nearly quadruple electricity production from diesel, gas and thermal plants to 2,240 Giga Watts per Hour (GWH) since 1977.

More plants are planned to meet a forecast demand of 8,200 GWHs of electricity by the year 2,000. "Maybe then, only a few tiny villages somewhere in Jordan will be without electricity," an official said.

To curb energy consumption, which is twice the average in Third World countries, the government ended a 4.5 million dinar (\$11 million) electricity subsidy and raised prices of some subsidised petroleum products including cooking gas, petrol and aviation fuel.

According to unofficial estimates the higher prices could bring the government an extra 26 million dinars (\$64.7 million) in revenue in 1985.

Oil exploration investment in the 1985 budget was doubled to 14.3 million dinars (\$35.6 million), mainly to drill more wells in an area where some oil has been found.

Dr. Khatib said the government hoped to make a commercial find by 1987 to help meet part of Jordan's oil needs.

The government would launch plans to substitute coal for oil in electricity generation by 1990.

Spanish minister calls for major concessions in entry talks with EC

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) Tuesday finally agreed on terms for Spanish and Portuguese membership but was immediately told that Spain wanted major concessions.

Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Morán accused the 10-nation group of planning the enlargement without regard for the interests of Spanish citizens.

He was talking to journalists after the group's foreign ministers put to him tough conditions on wine and fish, the last major outstanding enlargement issues.

Greece had earlier lifted its objections to the proposals, clearing the way for final accession negotiations. But it still threatens to veto Spanish and Portuguese entry unless the 10 agree to a multi-billion dollar Mediterranean aid programme.

Mr. Morán said Spain had already made major concessions during the seven-year-old entry talks

and would not accept indefinitely the extreme conditions which the community sought to impose.

"Membership by Jan. 1, 1986 is still possible. But the limit to our ability to make concessions is in sight," he said, adding that the stalemate had sparked "national frustration" in Spain.

"Our objective remains European integration. But the world is big, and we're not going to have the Community interfere with our policies merely for the sake of membership," Mr. Morán said.

Dutch European Affairs Secretary of State Mr. Willem Van Eekelen said he hoped "Morán's blarney" would convince the 10 that entry talks were a give-and-take process, made of compromises.

"Morán indicated the ball was now in our court. I think he's right and we must now adapt our positions," he said.

Talks between the European Commission and the Iberian states

were continuing and Mr. Morán said he thought they would settle problems on Spain's steel industry, car imports and high import duties Wednesday.

He said the aim was now to start drafting accession treaties in January and complete the talks in time for a formal adoption by Community leaders at their next summit in March in Brussels, leaving nine months for ratification by all member parliaments.

Diplomats said they saw extremely difficult bargaining ahead on fish and agriculture. Spain had rejected in advance Tuesday's Community proposal to deny its massive fishing fleet — the world's largest — access to group waters for 15 years.

It also challenges plans to curb imports of Spanish fruit, vegetables and olive oil for many years before the 10 open their borders completely, the diplomats said.

U.S. balance of payments deficit widens to record in third quarter

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States ran up a record balance of payments deficit of \$32.9 billion in the third quarter of this year, only about \$10 billion less than the deficit for the whole of 1983, the Commerce Department said Monday.

The current account — which gives the most comprehensive picture of American trade with the rest of the world — has deteriorated sharply this year, due largely to the impact of the dollar's strength on U.S. exports and imports.

"The strength of the dollar is seriously hurting our industry. To bring down the dollar and stem the trade deficit, we must lower the budget deficit," Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige said in a statement.

He said the current account will have a shortfall of more than \$100 billion this year and predicted it will rise further in 1985.

Through the first three quarters of 1984 the deficit was \$77.3 billion. There was a deficit of \$41.6 billion on the current account in 1983, the previous one-year high.

The current account trade figures incorporate exports and imports of merchandise, such as agricultural commodities, oil and manufactured goods.

They also cover the exchange of services and financial transactions, including profits or losses incurred by foreign subsidiaries of American corporations and interest paid on money borrowed by, or invested in, other countries.

In the second quarter there was a current account deficit of \$24.7 billion, the previous quarterly high.

Economists say massive borrowing by the government to finance the budget deficit is keeping the dollar buoyant. Trade in merchandise is visibly damaged by the currency's strength.

American exports suffer because the strong dollar makes them more expensive than comparable foreign goods, whereas imports thrive because the high-flying dollar makes them more attractively priced than domestic items.

In the third quarter, a 10.2 per cent jump in imports swamped a modest 1.7 per cent gain in exports.

Meanwhile, the United States, in a move likely to worsen relations with the European Community and New Zealand, Monday announced its intention of withdrawing from the international dairy agreement.

Agriculture Secretary John Block said Washington had notified the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) of its intention to pull out because the dairy accord sought to control trade in dairy products by setting minimum prices.

The Reagan administration has opposed commodity agreements with such economic provisions.

"This does not signal a trade war. We have no intention of breaking the world market with sales of dairy products," Mr. Block said.

However, Washington reserved the right to make sales of dairy products from its huge government stockpile.

Already this year the United States has sold butter, oil and cheese to Egypt and is planning a dairy products sale to Iraq.

Agriculture Department officials said the move was a signal of displeasure to the Community following a large sale of European butter to the Soviet Union at prices below those specified in the international accord. One official said: "It is pretty clear the agreement hasn't worked."

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henry Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

INGGA

YORFE

ALBEFF

BOLLAG

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above caption.

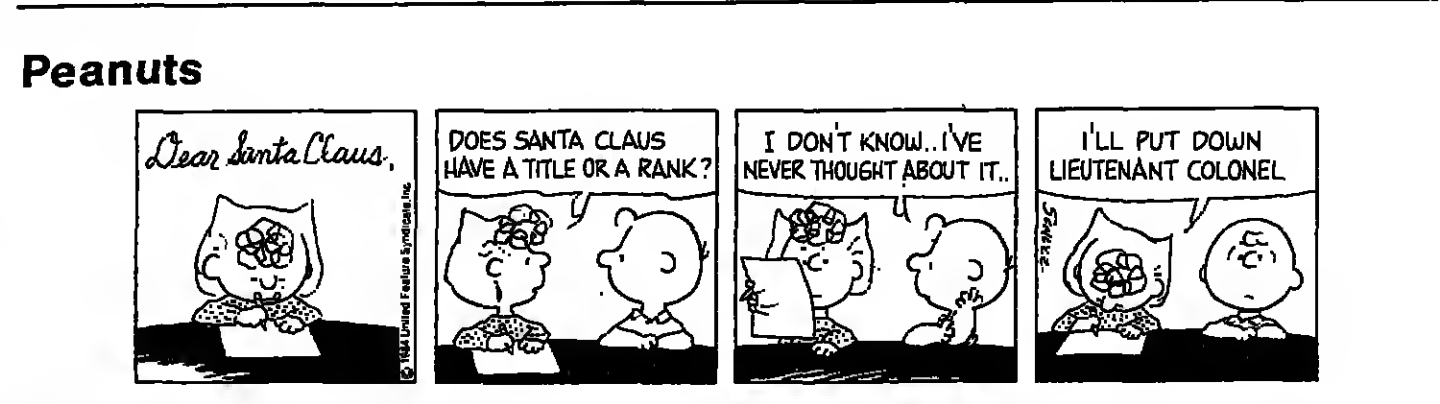
Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

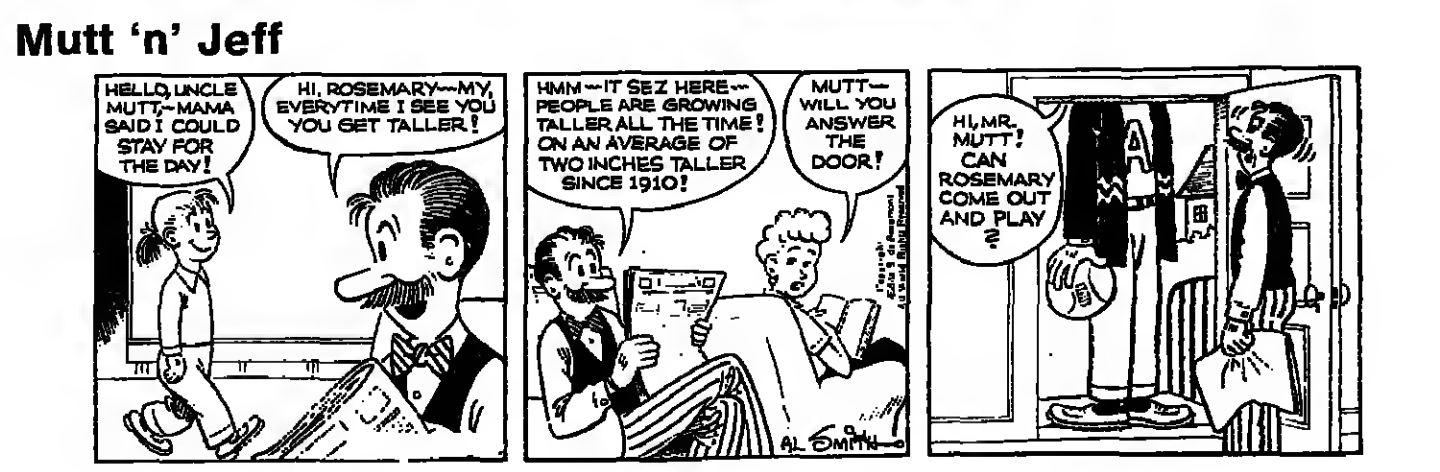
Yesterday's Jumbles: AGENT HYENA PURIFY RUBBER

Answer: What a fashion model might figure on — HER FIGURE

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Sterling slumps to new lows

LONDON (R) — The pound sterling slumped to new lows against the dollar and on its trade-weighted index against 17 currencies on foreign exchange markets Tuesday, and analysts say it will remain vulnerable in 1985.

At midday the Bank of England calculated that the pound sterling was worth 73.5 per cent of its 1975 value, the lowest since the index was devised. The pound fell to \$1.1812, an all-time low, before rising to \$1.1850.

One leading British merchant bank has advised clients that weak world oil prices, industrial unrest with the 10-month-long coalminers strike still unresolved, and the strong dollar could result in £1 equalling \$1 next year.

But Mr. David Kern, chief economist at National Westminster Bank, Britain's second biggest bank, said: "The three main factors affecting sterling adversely now will remain risks, but these risks will lessen."

The main threat to sterling is the current weakness of oil prices. Investors have little confidence in the ability of OPEC oil ministers at talks in Geneva Wednesday to prop up prices.

Most analysts see oil prices remaining weak, though a price collapse is thought unlikely, in the short-term, as world oil stocks are very low.

Mr. David Sawyer, deputy economic adviser at Barclays, Britain's biggest bank, said the weak pound against the dollar has been aiding British exports.

"As long as there is no perceivable sterling crisis, the government is probably not too concerned with sterling around current levels," he said.

But if sterling remains under pressure Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government could face a major policy dilemma — higher interest rates would threaten business confidence and foreign exchange intervention in the markets could reduce the country's foreign exchange reserves.

Mr. Paul Chertkow, chief economist at International Treasury

Management, thinks interest rates would have to rise.

"We have got a policy vacuum. She (Mrs. Thatcher) may have to use the interest rate weapon," he said.

The government was forced to let interest rates rise in mid-1984 to defend sterling against higher dollar interest rates.

One leading analyst, who declined to be identified, said the government would be better advised to intervene on the foreign exchanges rather than raise interest rates.

"Once sterling is allowed to drop through certain points, the slide becomes self-perpetuating. It (the government) has got to decide where to stand and fight," he said.

Otaiba warns N.Sea oil producers

GENEVA (Agencies) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC's) ministerial market monitoring committee Tuesday urged North Sea and other non-OPEC oil producing countries to cooperate with the organisation in its efforts to stabilise the world oil market and maintain prices.

At the end of the committee meeting here, its chairman, Dr. Mana Saeed Otaiba, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of the United Arab Emirates, said that the North Sea producers — Britain and Norway — were not giving OPEC the type of cooperation it had expected.

He said if OPEC failed to maintain the price structure, which would open the way for a price collapse, the organisation's member countries would not be the only ones to suffer.

Dr. Otaiba said that in the event of such a collapse, OPEC's reserves and production costs, compared to those of North Sea producers, would ensure that "we won't be the worst off".

The minister said the committee

had decided to recommend to the OPEC ministerial conference opening here Wednesday that the current 16 million b/d production ceiling and individual national quotas should be maintained "for the time being", and all 13 member countries should be urged to strictly abide by the organisation's decisions.

Dr. Otaiba attributed the current "weak" oil market to slow economic growth in the U.S. and Japan, continued recession in Western Europe, an unusually warm winter and the "discouraging behaviour" of non-OPEC oil producing countries.

Dr. Otaiba, who said the monitoring committee would convene again on Wednesday Jan. 30, 1985, will Wednesday attend a meeting of the three-member OPEC differential committee chaired by Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kundi was quoted Tuesday as saying OPEC and other producers should maintain the current price of oil in world markets.

Bonn cabinet approves record income tax cuts

BONN (R) — The cabinet Tuesday approved a 20-billion-mark (\$6.5-billion) package of income tax cuts which it says are the biggest in West German history.

Approval was announced by a government spokesman after the meeting.

The first stage, in 1986, will reduce taxes by 10.8 billion marks (\$3.5 billion), mainly benefiting those with middle and low incomes and families by raising their tax thresholds and sharply increasing tax-free child benefits.

The second phase, worth 9.2 billion marks (\$3 billion) and due to go into effect in 1988, will reform tax thresholds across the board.

Introducing the cuts in two phases met initial opposition from the Liberal Free Democrats, junior partners in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition, who wanted the entire plan to run from 1986 to give the economy additional impetus.

Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg aims to have the new tax law passed by parliament by mid-1985.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.1807/17	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3201/04	Canadian dollars
	3.0930/50	West German marks
	3.4910/30	Dutch guilders
	2.5505/25	Swiss francs
	62.05/10	Belgian francs
	9.4800/50	French francs
	1905.06/0	Italian lire
	247.05/20	Japanese yen
	8.8350/8450	Swedish crowns
	8.9450/9550	Norwegian crowns
	11.0675/0825	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	307.50/308.00	U.S. dollars

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is fine for getting your secret goals on a more satisfactory basis, but then the afternoon and the evening find you tied down to obligations and responsibilities.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) During the morning you can show persons in business that you have fine ideas and are a practical person. Handle routines wisely.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An associate will gladly go along with your ideas in the morning, but later there is a change and you meet with stubbornness.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Listen to what an expert has to suggest about work ahead of you and then follow through with suggestions and get good results.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Plan early for the evening entertainment in regular avenues but don't change plans later. Maintain harmony.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) The morning is fine for settling some family squabble, then refuse to talk about it later. Try to increase your efficiency.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Early make an appointment with a good friend for the evening's entertainment and later do not get pulled into any other recreation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Look to a family tie for the right answer to some problematical affair in the morning, and later avoid other money problems.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can easily handle a vital communication in the morning, but later be careful with other correspondence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can handle a problematical affair very well in the morning owing to a monetary windfall.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good friend can be of assistance where it counts a great deal to you in the morning, and later you can handle own affairs well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you consult with a bigwig early you can get data you need privately and then can use it wisely.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can gain a new idea from a friend who is well organized that will give you a new perspective, but later handle other matters.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have the ability to get successful persons to be of assistance, especially in choosing the right career. Send to the right schools and upon reaching maturity there can be much success in the chosen career. Teach to persevere in whatever is started and to complete it.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank Geary

ACROSS

- Cavalier fish
- Barton or Bow
- Arfied
- Dam
- Adjutants
- "I smell"
- Rhine tributary
- Locations
- Animal's place
- Respiration
- Introductory
- atlatl
- Murray or West
- Summer's cousin
- Obese
- Country
- monogram
- Workshop
- Idiot
- Exactly suitable
- Framework
- Actor Sal
- "Clear day"
- Lynn or Dore
- Outlet
- Iniquity
- Additional
- Warp
- Former secret agency
- E. Ger. city
- Gloomy
- Cries of a fox hunt
- Armor
- Gliding vehicle
- Pa. city
- Reptile
- Dullard
- Inlet
- As white as
- Bit of news
- Flocks
- Marbles

DOWN

- Map
- Learn
- Yorkshire river
- Reverie
- Redeemer's check
- Plunge
- Take as one's own
- Hermit
- State
- Placid
- Fine steeple
- Reason d'
- Needless
- Repetition
- Of short narratives
- Noted
- 27 Roman friends
- 28 Sibley and pup
- 30 Rhetorical expression
- 32 Café au
- 33 Helix Canyon state
- 34 Birds at prey
- 35 Release
- 37 Shipshape
- 38 Blackbird
- 40 Ousegan river
- 50 Lodgepole
- 53 Former Turk. coin
- 55 Ledger item
- 58 Spread the word
- 57 Region
- 58 Mandaclose one
- 59 Furnish
- 61 Jet
- 62 Increased
- 63 Borders
- 65 Was ahead

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

PAID PIRATES THE ABIE LINTOWN HAY SWORDLANCE TO EOD SATIRE NITPORN TRASS ENOL ELMAN AMA BEARS RIOT STAGES NAP ALICE SUBER PERE SAN SITING MATEE ECLIPSE MINDO ASISTE TINKER ARABIA ROK ASTARISBORN AWE MOORED LORN PAIR SNOBYS ERNE

U.N. urges superpowers to resume talks without delay

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations General Assembly has adopted 41 resolutions on disarmament, including an appeal to the two superpowers to resume negotiations without delay or preconditions.

The world body, entering the final phase of a three-month session Monday, also urged the Soviet Union and the United States to freeze their nuclear weapons simultaneously to set an example to other nuclear powers.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was directed to compile, classify and distribute data on the risks of a "nuclear winter" resulting from atomic war and to prepare a study on nuclear deterrence.

Many of the resolutions paralleled those adopted in previous years, reflecting the U.N.'s preoccupation with the arms race, the subject of its first-ever resolution.

The General Assembly also decided the relationship between disarmament and development in all its aspects and dimensions.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar and others have repeatedly deplored the world's huge expenditure on armaments, asserting that a fraction of the outlay could transform the global economy.

One resolution called for a ban on development of the neutron bomb which is aimed at people rather than buildings.

A total of 71 states, including the Soviet Union, favoured the ban. The United States, Britain, France and eight other nations voted against and 53 members abstained.

The United States, Britain, France, West Germany and a number of other European Community members were among 11 abstainers on the nuclear winter study proposal, which was adopted 130 to none.

A resolution asking the U.N. Security Council to "investigate Israel's nuclear activities and the collaboration of other states, parties and institutions in these activities" was approved by 94 votes to two. Israel and the United States voted against and 44 nations abstained.

The general assembly also passed a Soviet-sponsored resolution condemning "state terrorism" which a U.S. delegate called "in exercise in multilateral cynicism."

Ambassador Jose Sorzano, deputy to chief U.S. delegate Jean Kirkpatrick, said it was "shameless" of the Soviet Union to offer the resolution condemning acts "in which they themselves systematically engage."

The resolution, introduced by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in his address to the Assembly in September, passed 117-0 with 30 abstentions, mostly Western countries including the United States.

The resolution "condemns policies and practices of terrorism in relations between states."

It demands "that all states take no action aimed at military intervention and occupation" of the undermining or destabilisation of governments or socio-political systems of states "and in case forthwith any such action already in progress."

The resolution urges respect for the sovereignty and political independence of states, their right to self-determination and to freely choose without outside interference their own political and economic system.

Gandhi promises more environmental control

BHOPAL, India (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has promised more controls to prevent disasters like the Bhopal gas catastrophe which killed 2,500 people.

As residents slowly returned to this central Indian city hit by a poison gas cloud 15 days ago, Mr. Gandhi said the government would reconsider the location of every industrial plant which was a potential hazard.

"The government will give much more teeth to the Department of Environment so that it can control such things," Mr. Gandhi told a press conference during an election visit to India's most populous city Calcutta Monday night.

"We will have a fresh look at the location of every plant which is potentially hazardous," he said.

Some Indian newspapers have said casualties would have been lower if a densely-populated slum suburb had not been allowed to grow around the factory.

Indira Gandhi wrote of death plot against her

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian newspapers Tuesday published the text and photographs of a note written by the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in which she spoke of a threat against her life.

The undated note by Mrs. Gandhi, who was assassinated on Oct. 31, was not signed but was made available to the papers by the office of her son and successor as prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi.

She said a sense of calm prompted her to compose "what is in the nature of a will".

She wrote: "If I die a violent death as some fear and a few are plotting, I know the violence will be lifted and the nation will be free, not in my dying."

"No hate is dark enough to overshadow the extent of my love for my people and my country, no force is strong enough to divert me from my purpose and my endeavour to take this country forward."

11 blacks die in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Eleven black miners died and three are missing after a rock burst at the East Rand Proprietary Mines gold mine east of Johannesburg, a spokesman for Rand Mines Ltd. said, owners said Tuesday.

Five men died and three are missing after a rock burst at the East Rand Proprietary Mines gold mine east of Johannesburg, a spokesman for Rand Mines Ltd. said, owners said Tuesday.

Electoral College makes Reagan's election official

WASHINGTON (AP) — In one of the time-honoured rituals of American politics, 525 citizens did Monday what 91 million other voters could only ask them to do: They elected Ronald Reagan to a second term as president of the United States.

When the last Electoral College ceremony was over in state capitals across the nation, Mr. Reagan had amassed more electoral votes — 525 out of 538 — than any of the 38 men who held the office before him.

Although Mr. Reagan won a 59-41 margin of the popular vote last Nov. 6, technically this was merely guidance for the 538 members of the Electoral College, who represent each of the 50 states and Washington, D.C., or the District of Columbia, on a formula mainly based on population.

In effect, the U.S. presidency is determined state by state, with the candidate winning the most votes in any state also winning all that state's electoral votes.

The quadrennial Electoral College vote — fixed on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December — sets the stage for another ceremony in Washington on Jan. 7 when the president of the Senate — Vice President George Bush — will open the sealed ballots and announce the official results.

As regular as this ritual is the call by some newspapers and political reformers to abolish the system as outdated. But the tradition has survived.

Yet the unofficial results announced in each state as the voting took place on Monday confirmed the predictions based on the popular voting last month.

Walter Mondale, the losing Democrat, got his 13 votes from three electors in the solidly Democratic District of Columbia, and 10 in his home state of Minnesota, which Mr. Mondale carried by a whisker — by 3,763 votes out of more than 2 million cast.

The electors were also choosing a vice president, and Mr. Bush was enjoying the same landslide as Mr. Reagan.

The Electoral College was created at the constitutional convention of 1787 as a compromise between those founding fathers who wanted the president elected directly by the people and those who favoured election by Congress. The states have one elector for each senator and representative, and the District of Columbia gets three.

The formula was intended to assure at least some voice to every state, no matter how small, because each state has two senators. The number of representatives varies according to state population.

For the 538 electors, Monday's vote was their only call to duty. Only the ballots, not the electors themselves, are sent to Washington.

Indonesia wants F-16s

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia would like to equip its air force with advanced F-16 fighter-bombers but Washington appears reluctant to sell them, according to armed forces Commander Benny Murdani.

Gen. Murdani told Reuters in an exclusive interview: "We would like to have those aircraft, not to threaten anybody else but just to keep up the proficiency of our pilots."

Asked if Indonesia would re-equip its air force with general dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcons when self-imposed budgetary constraints end in a couple of years, the general said: "Yes, yes and no. Because the decision not only lies with our government but with the U.S. government... But we have the feeling that the Americans are reluctant to sell the F-16s."

The number of aircraft that Indonesia bought would depend upon how the financing was arranged, he said. American military assistance could be rolled over for five or six years and combine with Indonesian cash to make the purchase, he added.

Indonesia would like to buy the F-16-100 which is more fuel-efficient than the F-16-79. The 100 also has a longer range and a more powerful engine than the export-approved 79.

"Of course, if we have the choice we take the 100, not the 79, the 79 is an old-fashioned aircraft. The frame is new but the engine is old," Gen. Murdani said.

Asked if the Indonesian Air Force would consider the Northrop F-20 Tigerhawk as an alternative, he said: "If there are enough orders, yes, but the F-20 will not be mass-produced until they receive over 400 firm orders and those who have show interest are the Kuwaitis and I think some other countries totalling only 50 aircraft."

Gen. Murdani said although Indonesia could not afford to buy all the modern weapons it would like, it intended to keep up with the latest technical advances by developing small centres of technical sophistication in the navy and the air force.

The Indonesian Air Force at present relies on F-5s, A-4 Skyhawks and OV-10s counter-insurgency planes.

Pakistan drops identity checks for today's crucial referendum

ISLAMABAD (R) — The Pakistan government says it will not check the identity of voters in Wednesday's referendum on Islamisation, widely expected to give President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq five more years in power.

The government announced Monday night that voters would not have to show identity cards at polling stations, saying it was responding to public demand because many Pakistanis did not have one.

Chief Election Commissioner, S.A. Nusrat earlier told a news conference an identity card was required and denied that local officials could rig the polls in any way.

Banned opposition parties charge that local officials will falsify results by allowing second votes in the name of registered voters who

abstain or work abroad. "They say many of the almost three million Afghan refugees living in Pakistan may be brought in to vote in the north west frontier province, where they speak the same language as the local people."

Mr. Nusrat, who insisted he would not allow any tampering in the election process, was not immediately available for comment.

Five Pakistanis doubt that Gen. Zia, holding the first national poll since overthrowing Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1977 and later hanging him, will get a majority "yes" vote in the poll on his efforts to enforce Islamic laws and hold general elections by March.

Gen. Zia will automatically receive a five-year mandate if the referendum approves his plan and says he will step down if it does not.



THATCHER IN PEKING: British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is received by Chinese Foreign Minister Qiao Qunli upon her arrival at Peking airport Tuesday to sign a British-Chinese agreement on the future of Hong Kong (AP wirephoto)

Five Vietnamese sentenced to death

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (R) — Five people were Tuesday sentenced to death by firing squad after being found guilty of plotting to overthrow the Vietnamese government with the help of China, Thailand and the United States.

The five were among 21 defendants whose five-day trial on treason and espionage charges ended Monday in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon.

Judge Huynh Van Thang told a packed supreme court the five were the ring leaders of an anti-government organisation funded and armed by China and backed by Thailand with help from the United States.

He said they were dangerous and had to face the maximum penalty.

On hearing his death sentence one defendant shut his eyes and swooned as if about to faint. Another tried to speak but a soldier clamped a hand over his mouth, handcuffed him and hustled him away.

Three other defendants were sentenced to life imprisonment and the rest were given jail terms ranging from eight to 20 years.

Under Vietnam's penal code the five have seven days to appeal for their death sentences to be commuted to life imprisonment.

There is no appeal against the other sentences.

About 1,000 people, packed into what used to be the National Assembly building of the U.S.-backed Saigon government, gasped when the death sentences were handed down.

A murmur was also heard from people outside listening to the proceedings through public address speakers.

The group were among more than 100 people arrested since 1981 after infiltrating Vietnam.

Government officials said they aimed to kill or kidnap foreigners in Vietnam and create terror and confusion in the country to eventually bring down the government.

During more than two hours judgement the 21 accused were made to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in front of the five-member tribunal.

Those sentenced to death were Mai Van Hanh, Tran Van Ba, Le Quoc Quan, Huynh Vinh San and Ho Thai Bach.

Tran Nguyen Hung, To Van Huon and Hoang Dinh My received life sentences.

Three were sentenced to 20 years in jail and one received a 16-year prison term. Two others were sentenced to 15 years, three to 14 years, two to 12 years, one to 10 years and one to eight years.

The espionage trial was the biggest of its kind since the country came under Communist rule at the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. The prosecution said the accused planned to launch simultaneous guerrilla and sabotage operations in 1985 to embarrass the government and encourage others to join their cause.

The prosecution said the aims of the so-called "United Front of Patriotic Forces for the Liberation of Vietnam" included kidnapping or killing French and Soviet diplomats and technicians to sour the Hanoi's relations with Paris and Moscow.

During the trial, the alleged ringleader of the plot, Mai Van Hanh, told the court China armed and financed the group and training for the takeover took place in Thailand. He also said he made several visits to Peking after 1975 to discuss spying and sabotage and that main contact in the Chinese capital was Vice-Foreign Minister Han Nianlong.

Japan urged to scrap defence limits

TOKYO (R) — An influential advisory group urged Japan Tuesday to break out of its self-imposed military limitations and build up its forces in response to growing Soviet power.

The main recommendation of a study group appointed by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone was that Japan should no longer limit defence spending to within one per cent of its gross national product (GNP).

The one per cent limit has been an official article of faith since it was laid down in 1976 by the government of former Premier Takeo Miki. Mr. Nakasone often pledged support for the rule but hinted recently he might scrap it.

Political sources predicted Mr. Nakasone might seize on the report as an excuse to break through the one per cent barrier.

This would please the United States which long has been pressing for greater Japanese defence efforts but would infuriate an opposition which views Mr. Nakasone as a hawk.

"Circumstances have changed over the years, rendering the defence budget ceiling unworkable," the group's report said.

The group, headed by Professor Masataka Kosaka of Kyoto University, also called for revising the guideline that Japan should aim to develop only enough strength to deter a limited local war.

This was adopted at the same time as the one per cent rule in what was termed "the national defence outline."

"The outline," the report said, "should be reconsidered because the international and military situation has changed greatly."

It cited the growth of Soviet strategic power in the Far East, a 21 per cent increase in Far East troop strength to 470,000 men plus heavy growth in air and sea strength. "This has created a potential threat," it said.

The report said Japan should stick to other established defence policies such as the principle of self-defence only, the non-nuclear policy and maintenance of civilian control over the military machine.

Armed with the report, Mr. Nakasone could try to top the one per cent limit in the 1986 budget, political sources said. The prospect of this would improve the atmosphere for Mr. Nakasone's meeting in Los Angeles next month with President Reagan, they said.

Peronist convention split by walkout

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's large Peronist Party split in two at a weekend convention when half the delegates walked out, highlighting the division that has plagued the party since the death in 1974 of its founder Juan Peron.

Leading Peronist economist Eduardo Setti told reporters Monday the split could mark "the beginning of the end" for the party, Argentina's main civilian political force until its defeat in presidential elections a year ago.

Peronist leaders said about 350 of the 670 party delegates walked out in protest at the roughneck tactics of a faction led by old-time union chiefs and representatives of major industrial centres.

Those who stayed reelected former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, the party four-

der's widow who lives in seclusion self-imposed exile in Spain, as party president.

The dissidents, representing primarily provincial interests, did not contest her reelection. Instead they decided to hold a new convention in February followed by direct elections of party authorities by the rank and file.

A Maverick Peronist, La Rioja province Governor Carlos Menem, was attacked outside the convention hall by a mob opposing his close cooperation with President Raul Alfonsin's government.

Police broke up the crowd but other members of the splinter group said they had been physically intimidated by Peronist followers who were seated with delegates.

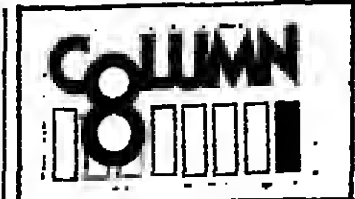
"The delegates from the provinces walked out when they

began to be the object of threats and pressure," Alberto Melon, a Buenos Aires province party leader, told reporters.

But he added that the spontaneous reaction of the delegates should help mark the end of "a style of politics that is no longer tolerated by Peronists."

Santa Fe province Governor Jose Maria Vernet was elected party vice-president, the effective leader in Peron's absence, by the labour faction.

The party was founded in 1945 by Juan Peron, who led it to victory three times in presidential elections. When he died in office 10 years ago, Maria Estela Peron, a former cabaret dancer he made his third wife during 18 years in exile, took over as Argentina's president and leader of the party. She was ousted in a military coup in 1976.



Widow flies for 1st time at 99

LOS ANGELES (R) — A 99-year-old widow took off from Los Angeles Monday on the first flight of her life — to spend the rest of her days in Britain. "I'm looking forward to bacon and eggs for breakfast and a nice cup of tea," Mary Armstrong told reporters before leaving aboard a British Airways airliner. Mrs. Armstrong, who emigrated to the United States from Britain in 1919, has lived alone in Los Angeles since her husband died in 1947. Their only child, a daughter, had died two years earlier. Mrs. Armstrong, who became a U.S. citizen, said she wrote to Queen Elizabeth asking to be allowed to live the rest of her life in Britain. At the request of the Queen, she said, she was given a certificate of entitlement, placed in her U.S. passport, which will allow her permanent entry into Britain. "It pays to go to the top," the fast-talking Mrs. Armstrong, slim in a blue check dress, declared triumphantly.

Christmas tree lights wreck home

LONDON (R) — The Brinton family are looking for a new home for Christmas — they blew up their own house Monday when they switched on their Christmas tree lights. Olive Brinton and her four small children fled into the street unhurt as their home in Farnham, southern England, collapsed around them. Firemen said a tiny spark from the festive lights ignited an unnoticed gas leak.

Olivia Newton-John marries

LOS ANGELES (R) — Singer Olivia Newton-John, 36, who has sold more than 25 million records, has married 25-year-old actor Matt Lattanzi, her publicity agent said Monday. It was the first marriage for both. Newton-John, who was born in Britain but brought up in Australia, brought her family from Australia for the wedding at her ranch in Malibu, on the outskirts of Los Angeles, the agent, Paul Bloch, said. The singer starred with John Travolta in the hit film Grease.

Pop star regains consciousness

NEWCASTLE, England (R) — Singer Mike Nolan of the Bucks Fizz pop group regained consciousness and was taken off the critical list, a hospital spokesman said. He said the 30-year-old pop star, injured in a road accident last week, was still seriously ill. Nolan Monday told a friend at his bedside: "I'm all right." It was the first time he has spoken since falling into a coma after an operation to remove a blood clot from his brain four days ago.

Woman to see first Christmas for 62 years

LONDON (R) — Grandmother Sylvia Duxbury will see her first Christmas for 62 years. Surgeons have restored her sight after a lifetime of almost total blindness. On Monday she told reporters she had seen her husband, Tom, 65, properly for the first time since they married 42 years ago. "He was even better looking than I thought," she said at her home in Newport, South Wales. Sylvia, who could only glimpse shadows, had artificial lenses implanted at the back of her eyes.

Strawberry Fields may not be for ever

LONDON (R) — Strawberry Fields, the children's home celebrated in the Beatles song, may not be for ever after all. The salvation army-run home in Liverpool, north England, a childhood haunt of song-writer John Lennon, has become a shrine for tens of thousands of Beatles fans from all over the world. But its intake of children is to be reduced over the next five years, raising a prospect of its eventual closure. Liverpool's left-wing-controlled city council says a declining birth rate has reduced a need for voluntary-run homes five of which have already been closed and needy children placed in council care. But captain David Botting, the officer in charge of the home, is pleading with the council to think again. "It's very sad and upsetting for Strawberry Fields to come to an end like this after nearly 50 years of good work."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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THE TALE OF THE FIVE OF CLUBS

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ Void
♥ A J 7
♦ A Q J 10 8
♣ A Q J 3 2

WEST
♠ 9 3 2
♥ 6 4 3 2
♦ 9 7
♣ K 10 7 5

EAST
♠ A K Q 8 7 6 4 3
♥ K Q 10 9 5
♦ Void
♣ Void

SOUTH
♠ J 10
♥ 8
♦ K 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 9 8 6 4

The bidding:
East South West North
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT 3 NT
4 ♠ 5 ♠ Pass Pass
5 ♠ Pass Pass 6 ♠
Pass Pass 6 ♠ 7 ♠
Pass Pass Double Pass
Opening lead: Two of ♣.

"As you might realize, it is not often the five of clubs gets to be the hero in a bridge saga, so you must forgive me if I go back to a hand that was played many years ago at the renowned Cavendish Club of New York."

"You might not believe the bidding, but I can assure you that it is exactly as it occurred. Since my master's partner had opened with a two-bid, he had no option but to double or bid a grand slam at

his final turn—East's pass was forcing. Obviously, my master's partner was a brave man—I am not sure that I would have allowed seven diamonds doubled to stand. "Being a good partner, my master led one of his partner's suits. Declarer won the ace of hearts in dummy and cashed the ace and king of trumps. He decided that, for his pass of seven diamonds, East had to be void in both minor suits, so no declarer tried the sneaky play of the six of clubs."

"Now I know many of the people who while away their hours at bridge clubs would have played me under the six. In that case declarer would have run the six and made his grand slam. But it is not for nothing that I consider my master to be a great rubber bridge player. He covered with the seven, declarer finessed the jack, which won, and returned to hand with a heart ruff."

"Next came the eight of clubs, but my master covered once more. Declarer won the queen, and again returned to his hand with a heart ruff to lead the nine of clubs. My master stuck to his guns and covered with the king, forcing the ace from the board. My moment of glory had finally arrived. After three rounds of clubs had been played, I had been promoted to the master club!"

"There was nothing declarer could do. He was forced to surrender a trick to me, and now, many years later, here I am, about to be enshrined in the bridge hall of fame!"